

מקראות לתורה

Israel's leading electronic daily
http://www.jpost.co.il
THE JERUSALEM POST INTERNET EDITION
is waiting for you!

THE JERUSALEM POST

Make international connections
From Israel, just dial:
177-100-2727
AT&T

VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19457

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1996 • TEVET 7, 5757 • 7 SHABAN, 1417

NIS 4.50 (Eilat NIS 3.80)

WORLD OF SPORT
Cowboys Clinch NFC East
It's all in the WORLD OF SPORT TODAY

Ayalon: I advised PM to open tunnel
SARAH HONIG and LIAT COLLINS



A Palestinian policeman and an IDF soldier shake hands during a joint patrol of Kalkilya yesterday. Israel and the Palestinian Authority resumed joint military patrols there yesterday. Kalkilya is the fourth city where patrols were resumed since being halted after September's bloody clashes in the territories. The IDF said Kalkilya still remains a closed military area and Israelis are barred from entering the town. (Text: Arieh O'Sullivan, Photos: AP)

Clinton's warning shot

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton fired a warning shot across Israel's bow last night by attacking the expansion of settlements, and offering his stark assessment that the Middle East is either moving forward toward peace or backward toward greater turmoil.

Moreover, so much of Israel's success in dealing with the US bureaucracy, including the Pentsagon, during the last few years has come amid a perception by a myriad of senior and mid-level bureaucrats that Israel is a Clinton favorite and must not be crossed.

ing an undifferentiated approach, without a territorial blueprint for the future. It is this combination of a stalled peace process and an undifferentiated view of settlements which is seen as a lethal cocktail.

GENERAL Security Service chief Ami Ayalon yesterday confirmed that he had urged Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to open the Western Wall Tunnel. He told the Knesset subcommittee on the secret services that he had raised the tunnel issue at various meetings with Netanyahu and encouraged him to open it. He said the timing was not the critical problem. He said he had made the assessment in view of Wafk activity in the Solomon's Stables area of the Temple Mount and of probable Jewish extremist response.

Channel 1: Two get 25 years for Tzur slayings
CHANNEL 1 reported last night that two members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine had been tried and sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment by a Palestinian security court for the shooting of Etta and Ephraim Tzur last week near Beit El. Ramallah police could not confirm the report.

Monitoring panel: Lebanon responsible for Katyusha attack

THE five-nation Grapes of Wrath monitoring committee last night said it holds the Lebanese government responsible for Friday's Katyusha rocket attack on western Galilee - the first Katyusha attack since the cease-fire that ended the cross-border fighting in April.

The IDF Spokesman, in a statement issued late last night, said the committee had determined that the Lebanese government is obligated by the understandings and is responsible for doing everything in its power to uphold them and ensure that similar incidents do not occur in the future.

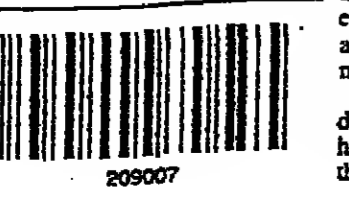
Ben-Yair favors releasing Klingberg

ATTORNEY-GENERAL Michael Ben-Yair reportedly favors letting convicted spy Marcus Klingberg out of jail, but the State Attorney's Office still opposes the idea, it was revealed yesterday.

that he has no intention of harming the state if released, it worried that he would unintentionally let slip information that could do great damage.

to Klingberg's release, because as far as it knows, the GSS's objections still stand. While there was a meeting with Ben-Yair about Klingberg, the office continued, the issue of who would finance the hypothetical guard never arose.

issue back to court. "Now there is no security reason, there is only a financial reason," he said, adding that the courts were much less likely to uphold keeping a man in prison just because it is cheaper.



The State Attorney's Office denied this version of events, however. In an official statement, the office said it remains opposed

B.T.C. Travel & Tours
REGULAR AND PRIVATE TOURS TO JORDAN
• 1, 2, 3 and 4 Day Organized Tours
• Individuals • Friends • Families
• Small Groups • Large Groups
• Excellent Itineraries
• Guaranteed Departures
Other Tours Available: EGYPT 2 to 10 day tours, SINAI 1 to 4 day tours, ISRAEL Daily sightseeing tours

Jerusalem Post Subscription Sales and Service 177-922-2278

Clinton slams settlement policy

ISRAEL'S settlement policy in the territories is "preempting" a final status agreement, US President Bill Clinton said yesterday.

believe, and we can press our views on all those issues - and we are. But I want to assure you that we have been in very close contact with both parties for some time now. I have personally, our administration has, and we're pushing ahead."

Clinton's comments were his first since last Friday's cabinet meeting, at which the government announced financial incentives for settlement residents. The comments also are Clinton's strongest words on the peace process since his November 5 reelection.

Meanwhile, a senior US official insisted the Clinton administration played no role in the letter claiming Israeli settlement policies are harming the chances for peace sent to Netanyahu yesterday by eight leading officials in previous US administrations.

Above All...
We've Mastered the Art Of Private Banking
"The Jewel of the Israeli Banking Industry,"
Salomon Brothers, 28.2.96
"First International is the best regarded of the major Israeli banks..."
Union Bank of Switzerland, global research report, 15.12.95
First International is ranked No. 1 among the five leading banks in Israel
by Thomson Bank Watch, 3.1.96
It was not easy to achieve such high regard from such prestigious international institutions. It took years of hard work and conducting business by a clearly defined business philosophy that focuses on safety. Mainly the protection of our clients assets and shareholders investments.
Our state of the art practices and the performance of our professional staff are clearly reflected in customer satisfaction and in our balance sheet. Year after year.
FIBI's International Private Banking offers non-Israeli residents, new immigrants and Israelis living abroad custom tailored products and services that meet their individual financial needs based on confidentiality and security.
For further information, contact our International Private Banking Department.
Tel Aviv, 22 Allenby St.
Tel: (972)-3-5100530
Fax: (972)-3-5100827
or our subsidiaries:
FIBI Bank (UK), 24 Creechurch Lane, London EC3A 5EH. Tel: (44)-171-2835333,
FIBI Bank (Switzerland), 45 Bleicherweg, Zurich 8027. Tel: (41)-1-2016969
or at the offices of Republic National Bank of New York.
YOUR STATE OF THE ART BANK
THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL BANK OF ISRAEL

Hebron talks resume

DAVID MAKOVSKY AND LIAT COLLINS

IN an indication of the easing of tension, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators met yesterday, for the first time in 10 days, to discuss a Hebron pullback.

Negotiators Yitzhak Molcho and Saeb Erekat met in Jerusalem amid US efforts to bring the two sides together and comments by President Bill Clinton that there are only slight differences between the two sides.

Earlier in the day, Netanyahu phoned Jordan's King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and updated them on his conversation with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

In a letter that Jordanian Information Minister Marwan Muasher delivered to Netanyahu last week, Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti deplored settlement expansion and said it impacted negatively on Jordan's security.

Foreign Minister David Levy will visit Amman on Thursday, making him the first Israeli official to visit there since the Western Wall Tunnel exit was opened in September.

Meanwhile, the closure of Ramallah is to be lifted today, according to Israel Radio.



Masked members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine burn an Israeli flag during a demonstration in Nablus yesterday to mark the PFLP's 29th anniversary.

Arafat loosening reins on Hamas

HAMAS is coming in from the cold almost a year after being forced to lower its profile following last winter's four suicide bombings, but it represents more of a loosening of the reins by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat than a change of direction by Hamas.

In an interview with the leading Palestinian daily *Al Quds* on Sunday, Hamas spokesman Dr. Mahmoud Zahar said that he believed that "circumstances are not the same now as during the intifada" and that all Hamas activities "should have a clear address and all its activities should be open."

"The whole land of Palestine is a Moslem Waqf but as a first step Hamas would not stand in the way of establishing a state in Gaza, the West Bank and east Jerusalem," he said.

Other Hamas leaders responded that this in no way meant that the

ANALYSIS
JON IMMANUEL

Islamic Movement was making a first step towards softening its opposition to the Oslo accords. "We are fully opposed," said Sayed Abu Musannah, a former editor of the banned Hamas newspaper *Watan*.

While giving Hamas the opportunity to show its face again, Arafat has given no sign yet he will allow *Watan* to reopen. He closed it more than a year ago for its strong attacks on the PA jailing of Hamas supporters and the PA's encouragement of what Hamas called social immorality.

None of this has changed, but Arafat has earned greater respectability in Gaza over the past six months of Likud rule in Israel. This has given him the power to be both tougher and more lenient to his

opponents, according to his needs.

As a sign of its new limited acceptability, Hamas will open a political office in Gaza City soon which will name a local leadership and coordinate with the Hamas leadership abroad, Zahar said.

And the Beit Lahia Municipality, under the PA's control, has decided in principle to name a street after master bomber Yihye Ayyash, "The Engineer" who was killed on that street and whose death there prompted the four suicide bus bombings against Israel a month later.

Arafat landed Ayyash, who was responsible for more than 50 Israeli deaths before he died. But in a Gaza military court, last weekend, two members of Izzadin Kassam, the underground Hamas armed wing headed by Ayyash, were sentenced to death for killing a Gazan civilian and a security guard while attempting to steal their weapons.

In the past nine months Hamas has shown itself to be less violent than its junior opposition partner. Yesterday Ramallah police said they arrested more than 10 supporters of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in connection with last week's drive-by shooting near Beit El which killed Eita and Ephraim Tsair.

In Nablus, police allowed several hundred PFLP and some Hamas supporters to celebrate the killings at an-Najah University and call for a continuation of armed struggle.

At this moment it is not clear which of the two horses, crackdown or political leniency, Arafat is driving harder. He appears to be exploiting growing anti-Israel sentiments to shore up his support at home while working within the letter of the Oslo agreement for Israeli consumption.

Labor leaders: PM caused confidence crisis

LIAT COLLINS and MICHAL YUDELMAN

A POLITICAL furor erupted over the credibility gap between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the security apparatus, which culminated Sunday night with Netanyahu's statement that the security apparatus heads urged him to open the Western Wall Tunnel.

Labor leaders accused the prime minister of causing the confidence crisis, noting that the heads of the General Security Service, military intelligence and police all warned of the confrontation which the tunnel opening would cause.

During their weekly meeting, Labor MKs nearly all accused Netanyahu of not speaking the truth when he claimed that the security forces, or at least some of them, had favored the tunnel opening.

MK Efraim Sneh (Labor) said the confidence crisis between the prime minister and the heads of the security apparatus is unprecedented. Sneh accused Netanyahu of "shifting the blame for the tunnel opening onto the security apparatus heads, who, as everyone knows, had warned him of the repercussions of opening the tunnel."

Labor leader Shimon Peres said, "It is unthinkable that the security apparatus heads would have urged Netanyahu to open the tunnel, because this is a political suggestion which has nothing to do with the security requirements. Even if they had, what kind of prime minister accepts such a recommendation?"

MK Haggai Meron (Labor) said the prime minister's behavior towards GSS head Ami Ayalon showed that he wants to force him to resign by "forcing him up against a wall and damaging his credibility." Meron said Netanyahu had done the same with attorney-general Michael Ben-Yair.

MK Ehud Barak (Labor), former chief of staff and military intelligence head, said he did not believe the security apparatus heads could have urged Netanyahu to open the tunnel, since the chief of staff, military intelligence head and military district commander and others did not take part in the meeting in question.

Barak added that the split Netanyahu created between himself and the security apparatus is dangerous to the state's security.

MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) yesterday said he watched with shock as Netanyahu made his statement on television Sunday night "because it was clear that he was not speaking the truth." Cohen, who is chairman of the Knesset Control Committee, said the committee heard the testimony of all the security apparatus heads involved, "and they testified in contradiction to what Netanyahu said."

At the request of Labor MKs Ra'anana Cohen and Moshe Stahel, Ran Cohen said the committee will hold another debate, to which he will invite Netanyahu to make his position clear.

Correction

The Farewell Cracow concert will take place at Yad Vashem on January 2, and not as stated in yesterday's paper.

TOUR THE HOLYLAND
CANAANITES • ISRAELITES • CHRISTIANITY • ROMANS
GREEKS • CRUSADERS • FIRST AND SECOND TEMPLES
Meet them all touring from event to event in this new GUIDEBOOK by Israel tour guide, DEKEL RATZER, and watch history come alive.
16 FULL COLOR PAGES + 12 HISTORICAL MAPS
Softcover NIS 48.00
228 pp. (incl. shipping) Check * M/C/V
P.O.B. 36004 Jerusalem 91360
Tel: 02-538-0247 Fax: 02-538-8423
Listen to Arutz 7, 711 1143 AM 105 FM

Controlling your Anger... and Finding Joy!
a five-part free lecture series given by
Rabbi Zelig Pliskin
and **Dr. Yehuda Lave, Psychologist/Author**
Five consecutive Wednesdays - 8-10 p.m., from Dec. 18, 1996 till Jan. 15, 1997, at the Hildesheimer Shul, off Emeq Refaim (down from the Post Office), German Colony, Jerusalem.
Admission free - For information call Dr. Lave 02-654-0135, ext. 7173.

NEWSLINE with YEHUDA BEN-MEIR

What does the conflict of versions between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and GSS head Ami Ayalon mean? The deep mistrust that seems to exist between the highest political level and the leaders of the security establishment represents a grave crisis in civil-military relations. Trust is the basic condition, the sine qua non for healthy civil-military relations. When you don't have that, you may have a crisis.

Is this unprecedented? I wouldn't see it as unprecedented. In 1953, there was the Lavon affair in which there was a total mistrust between defense minister [Pinhas] Lavon and chief of general staff [Moshe] Dayan and a crisis of confidence between Lavon and prime minister Moshe Sharett. This was the most serious crisis of civil-military relations in Israel and resulted in the resignation of Lavon and subsequent return of David Ben-Gurion to power.

How serious is this crisis? I don't think the security establishment, either the GSS or the military, demand that the prime minister accept everything they recommend. The civilian control of decision making is not the question. In democracies the military accepts the iron principle of civilian control. But it demands that the civilian leadership gives proper weight to its considerations. That is the difference between democracies and autocracies.

How does one get out of this situation? In democracies, you don't have a secret police to undermine and intimidate the military. There is no question that Netanyahu can overrule. But he has to abide by the cardinal rule that each coin has two sides. One side is that the military leadership is completely subservient to the civilian leadership, and in Israel no one has ever questioned this. But Churchill said there also had to be respect for the military and you must have confidence in it. The fact that the prime minister and his whole office radiate this complete disdain for the military echelon is totally destructive.

There are those who say the suspicion among the prime minister and his advisers for the security establishment stems from the belief the upper echelon was appointed by the Labor government and held contrary opinions. That is rubbish. Both Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir inherited an army appointed during Labor governments, and they had total respect for the officers and worked with them for years. Shamir, who held a much more extreme ideology than Begin, had tremendous respect for and good rapport with the military leadership. Shamir would absorb everything the military wrote - and these were Labor people. They realized that a healthy transition of power meant a healthy democracy. The government coming in must respect all the people who were there. They are not political appointees who were promoted three months before the elections.

Ben-Meir is a former deputy foreign minister and author of *Civil-Military Relations in Israel*.

United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc.
המנכ"ת המאוחדת לישראל בקנדה אינ"ק
its Officers and Staff extend sincere condolences to Felix Meloul on the passing of his beloved Mother
AZIZA MELOUL ז"ל
Harvey Wolfe President Max Blankstein Chairman, IRC
Steven Air Executive Vice President Amnon Shinar Director General

ברוך דיין האמת
In deep sorrow we announce the passing in Jerusalem of our dearly beloved
SIMON HAIN ז"ל
Wife: Cecelia Hain
Brother: Phillip Hain
Children: Dr. James Hain and Family
Rabbi Uri Hain and Family
Dr. Daniel Hain and Family
Rabbi Kenneth Hain and Family
Shiva is being observed until Sunday morning at 8 Shai Agron, Jerusalem.

We join in the grief of
Mr. Alan Sacks and his family
on the passing of his father
LOUIS SACKS ז"ל
The Clore Foundation
Vivien Clore Duffield, Chairman
The Trustees and Executive Director

We mourn the loss of
HARRY KEMELMAN
of Marblehead, Massachusetts U.S.A.
The family in Israel and the United States

My cherished and most beloved husband
BENJAMIN SKLAR
has passed away
Deeply and profoundly mourned by: Naomi daughter: Stacey Ross brothers: Reuben and Albert - and sister Nina
Funeral today December 17, 1996, at 1:30 p.m., Shikun Vatikim, Netanya Bus will leave Nitzza 16 at 1:00 p.m.

BE A WINNER!
Fill out this entry form today, return it to The Jerusalem Post and participate in our weekly raffle for valuable gift certificates from Kitan, Golf and Levi's stores! Every Friday in The Post, we'll announce three new prize winners: 1st Prize: NIS 700 value, 2nd Prize NIS 200 value, 3rd Prize NIS 100 value.
The more you read The Post...the better your chances are to Be A Winner!

THE JERUSALEM POST
KITAN Golf Levi's

Only original entry forms accepted, no photocopies, fax copies or separate sheets of paper. Campaign valid through February 21, 1997. Entry form will not be held over from previous week draws. Jerusalem Post employees, their families and distribution agents are exempt from participating.

Government turns b...
no-confiden...
Netanyahu won't steal for se...
EXPLORE JERUSA...
THROUGH THE A...

Government turns back no-confidence bid

LIAT COLLINS

THE Knesset last night defeated a motion of no-confidence in the prime minister, filed by Labor and Meretz, 58-21.

The motions on the government's policy on the settlements were submitted last month, but the vote was postponed for various reasons.

Many Labor MKs did not participate in the vote to protest their not having seen any agreement made with the Third Way.

Third Way MKs voted with the coalition, following a meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in which he promised that he would not make a sweeping decision on making all Judea and Samaria a development zone, but would differentiate between areas.

Labor leader Shimon Peres told the plenum that the government is creating a lack of security and bringing the country to the brink of war. He said there is no chance of a broad consensus of the type Netanyahu wants, and the only consensus is that of the Arab world against Israel because of the gov-

ernment's mistakes.

Peres said the defense establishment had recommended against opening the Ramallah bypass road, on which last week's fatal attack took place, but he had opened it to shorten the journey for school-children in the area traveling under heavy security.

MK Ran Cohen, who spoke for Meretz, said that by stalling on the Hebron redeployment and the decision to enlarge settlements, Netanyahu "is playing with fire."

Communications Minister Limor Livnat stressed that the government would do no less than its predecessors in the territories and would determine its own priorities, just as the Labor government had done in extending aid to bodies like Kupat Holim Clalit.

She said the government would have decided on different policies than the Labor government even without terror attacks: "I understand that this upsets the opposition, but it is the reason we were voted into power. We are here and well build here."



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Dan Meridor confer before a meeting of the Likud Knesset faction to discuss the budget yesterday. (Ariel Jerolimski)

Meridor tells Likud faction he will try to meet their demands

EVELYN GORDON

FINANCE Minister Dan Meridor told members of the Likud faction yesterday that he will make every effort to reach a compromise on their major objections to the budget over the next few days.

The three major issues are cuts in child allowances, payments for doctors' visits and higher copayments for medicines. Together, these account for some NIS 1.3 billion worth of cuts.

"We asked for alternative proposals, but until now I have not received any that were feasible," Meridor said, according to an official briefing. "However, we will continue to try to reach understandings. I can't promise anything, but we are exploring every possible option for coming to an understanding. However, we don't

have pennies from heaven." "We only have this week to reach understandings," he added, noting that the plenum debate on the Economic Arrangements Law starts next Tuesday. "But if there is discipline within the coalition, it is possible to get the law through the Knesset Finance Committee within a few days."

Both MK David Re'em and MK Meir Sheerit, who have been threatening to vote against the budget, said they were encouraged by Meridor's comments. The finance minister appears to have begun to take their demands seriously, they said.

Meridor also told the faction that deals had been concluded with

Yisrael Ba'aliya and the Third Way, and said he was close to a deal with Shas, United Torah Judaism and the National Religious Party.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu exhorted his party to cooperate on the budget-cutting effort, warning that Israel's A-credit rating was predicated on the cuts going through. If this rating were downgraded, it would cause great damage to the country's efforts to attract investment and take out loans, he said.

Faction chairman Michael Eitan warned the MKs that though the law gives them until March 31 to pass the budget, it would be disastrous from the point of view of public opinion not to finish by December 31.

Religious Affairs budget proposal rejected

EVELYN GORDON

THE Knesset Finance Committee rejected the Religious Affairs Ministry's 1997 budget proposal yesterday, sending it back to the Treasury as unacceptable.

This is the first time the committee has returned any of the 1997 ministry budgets to the Treasury. Earlier, it returned a section of the Economic Arrangements Law accompanying the budget that dealt with child allowances.

"In light of the fact that Deputy Ministers Yigal Bibi and Aryeh Gamliel, as well as ministry director-general Avi Blustein, said the budgetary framework does not enable [the ministry] to fulfill the most minimal religious needs in Israel; and in light of the fact that a Treasury representative was not present at the meeting to explain the Treasury's position, we hereby decide to halt the discussion, and recommend that the Treasury reconsider the ministry's budget and submit an amended budget to the committee - one which will meet the minimal religious needs of the state and update the funding allocated to educational institutes, yeshivas, Torah research and religious structures," the committee wrote in its decision.

The decision was passed with only two votes in favor: Those of committee chairman Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism) and Nissim Daban (Shas). Zvi Hendel (National Religious Party) abstained, while Michael Kleiner (Geshet) approved halting the discussion because of the absence of a Treasury representative, but opposed sending the budget back to the Treasury. No other coalition MKs were present.

Opposition MKs abstained, despite their objection to increas-

ing the ministry's budget, as they saw no reason to rescue the coalition from another embarrassment.

The decision to send the budget back was made after Bibi and Gamliel said that not only could their ministry not handle its scheduled NIS 17 million cut, but it needed an extra NIS 300m. just to maintain a minimal level of functioning.

"It's not possible to discuss a budget when those responsible for the ministry say they cannot manage [with that budget]," Ravitz said. "All the other ministries are being cut after [their budgets] were updated [for inflation and natural growth]. But to a ministry which for years has gotten nothing - there are items for which [the budgets] have eroded by 90% - this is irrelevant."

Kleiner and opposition MKs disagreed. "There is no real cut in the budget, or at most a very small one," Kleiner said, contrasting this with the cuts in the welfare budget. "There are many things that need improvement, but these will have to wait until next year... We have not returned the budget of any other ministry. If we should be sending back ministry budgets, there are several ministries which are more important."

Haim Oron (Meretz) said he saw no justification for the state to shell out millions to pay for the "uncontrolled growth in the number of yeshiva students."

"The return of the Religious Affairs Ministry budget to the government is yet another proof of the government's inability to get the budget through the Knesset," said former finance minister Avraham Shohat (Labor), who heads the opposition in the committee.

Netanyahu: Gov't won't 'steal' land for settlements

HERB KEINON and LIAT COLLINS

PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday that the government has "no intention of 'stealing' [the privately-owned land] near Beit El" for more settlements.

Speaking to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday concerning Friday's cabinet decision to grant settlements in Judea and Samaria Zone A development status, Netanyahu said: "I thought it right to give them back the rights taken from them, from the morale and economic points of view."

He stressed that the "right time to declare new settlements is around the permanent status discussions. We are already doing the preparatory work on the final arrangements and naturally the question of new settlements will be related to the question of how one wants to see the map of the Land of Israel. Clearly in the areas that won't be handed over to the Palestinian Authority in the permanent arrangements, Israel will be able to do as it wants. Until then, we won't establish new settlements."

MK Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) criticized the prime minister from the other direction, saying he should have added scores of housing units to Beit El after the attack.

While construction in Beit El is now the cause celebre of the settlement movement, discussions between settlement and government officials are currently revolving around political, legal and logistical issues, rather than firm plans about how many units to build, settlement activists said yesterday.

According to these activists, the discussions are centering on land near the army firing range adjacent to Beit El, and Har Artis, just outside the settlement.

Har Artis is more problematic, they said, because building there would entail expropriating Arab-owned land, which Netanyahu has said he does not want to do.

Legally, it would be much easier to build on land belonging to the army base, since it is legally part of Beit El. This, however, raises political problems as well as logistical ones, such as where to move the firing ranges and, perhaps, where to move the base itself.

One Beit El official said that as of now there is all kinds of talk, but nothing has been decided. The talk has for now kept Beit El settlement leaders from taking unilateral action, such as setting up mobile homes on land near the settlement without government approval.

Yehuda Pinsky, a Beit El resident and deputy head of the Binyamin Regional Council, said for now the decision has been made to cooperate with, not confront, the government. He said this could very well change in two to three weeks if no practical decisions are made.

Pinsky said Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai is carefully looking into any legal problems that could arise from a decision to build in the settlement. "He does not want to make a decision, and then lose face if the decision does not hold up in court," Pinsky said.

Meanwhile, the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza will soon embark on a campaign to increase public awareness of what they say is massive illegal Palestinian building in the territories under complete Israeli control, the so-called Area C.

Council spokesman Yehiel Leiter said the council knows of 5,000 such homes, 700 of which are fully documented and which the defense minister could legally tear down if he so desired.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Romanian laborer killed at work

Rehovot police launched an investigation yesterday into the death of a Romanian worker, who died after a work accident.

Around midnight Sunday, police received a call from Kaplan Hospital, where staff reported that a Romanian worker had died of injuries from an accident.

Police determined that while working in a trench for an earth-moving company, the worker activated equipment which collapsed the walls, burying him in earth up to his neck. He and an Israeli who was worker also injured, were taken to the hospital, where the Romanian later died of his injuries. A Labor Ministry investigator said the accident was apparently caused by negligence.

MDA back on normal schedule

Magen David Adom workers are temporarily ending their work sanctions today to create a better atmosphere for a meeting with management, as well as the Finance and Health ministries, that is scheduled for tomorrow, the workers' committee announced.

Tw die on roads

Wadia Farah, 78, died late Sunday night as a result of injuries suffered when he was hit by a car while

crossing a street in his village of Kafri-Yasif earlier in the day.

Truck driver Turan Elbaz was killed, and another truck driver seriously injured, when Elbaz's truck lost its brakes on the Moza curve on the Jerusalem-Tel-Aviv highway and hit the truck in front of it. A bus was also involved in the accident, but none of its passengers was hurt.

Histadrut heads okay '97 budget

The Histadrut leadership yesterday approved a 1997 budget of NIS 285 million, plus a NIS 15m. budgetary reserve. The Histadrut Parliament is scheduled to discuss adopting the budget today.

Histadrut Chairman MK Amir Peretz said the budget, which is NIS 20m. above what the Histadrut's financial department recommended, will allow it to expand its existing services and add new ones. The Histadrut also expects 100,000 more workers will join it in 1997.

Panel: Equalize pay phone rates

The Knesset Economic Affairs Committee yesterday demanded that Bezeq and the Communications Ministry equalize the fees for making calls from public cellular phones with those for calling from a regular pay phone. Cellular phones are installed largely in army outposts in the North and in South Lebanon, where there is no infrastructure for ordinary phones, and so the main victims of the higher fees are soldiers.



EXPLORE JERUSALEM THROUGH THE AGES

Jerusalem, the center of Jewish heritage as well as a symbol of hope and the future. Its story presented in this five-part sourcebook, through primary sources from all periods of the city's history. Informative and well-written, The Sources of Jerusalem can help you prepare your visit, can be taken on your walks exploring the city, and help you remember the eternal city. The book is the main text for the 1996 International Jerusalem Quiz. Pictures, maps, time-lines, glossary, etc. Available in English, Spanish and Russian.

Produced by Education Matters Ltd, in a glossy presentation box.

JP Price NIS 59 Incl VAT, p&h In Israel
Overseas airmail - please add NIS 19 per copy
Please allow 3-4 weeks for airmail from Jerusalem

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

Please send me _____ copies of Sources of Jerusalem. Enclosed is my check payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details

VISA ISRAELCARD DINERS AMEX Exp _____

CC No. _____ Name _____ Address _____

City _____ Code _____ JD No. _____

Tel. (day) _____ Signature _____

Please list gift recipients' names and addresses separately



come in different shapes and sizes

...the long and the short and the tall and they come with different talents and ambitions, and they come rich and poor and mostly in between. And some come, usually through no fault of their own, disadvantaged.

That's where we come in.

For nearly fifty years, readers of The Jerusalem Post, both in Israel and in some 100 countries around the world have been sending money to help those less fortunate.

The Forsake-Me-Not fund, together with social workers and volunteers in the field, use your donations to help old folks living in distressed circumstances.

With your help we've been able to alleviate suffering and provide a little hope.

Help us to help people by sending a contribution today to:



The Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem 91000, Israel
Friends of The Jerusalem Post Funds,
20 East 56th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022, U.S.A.

Together, we shall overcome.

Reform movement calls for territorial compromise

MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK

THE lay leadership of the Reform movement has called for territorial compromise to resolve the Middle East conflict and called on both Israel and the Palestinians to observe the letter and spirit of the Oslo Accords.

"Over the years, we have expressed our understanding that a resolution of the conflict requires territorial compromise," the national board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations said in a resolution.

The board, meeting over the weekend in Los Angeles, expressed its disappointment with the Israeli government's stand on both the political and religious fronts.

The May election has strengthened the position of "religious fundamentalists," it said in a separate resolution that reaffirmed its sup-

port for religious pluralism in Israel. It urged the members of its 800 congregations in the US and Canada to consider religious freedom and religious pluralism in Israel "among their highest priorities."

Saying it was alarmed at the "deterioration of the positive spirit" of Oslo, the board called on Israel and the Palestinian Authority to proceed, without delay, to implement the agreements reached so far. It termed the development and expansion of settlements a "needless provocation" that impedes the successful conclusion of the final status negotiations.

It also called on the Palestinian Authority and Yasser Arafat to "renounce both the use of violence and the threat of violence as a political weapon in the negotiations."

YES/NO FOR/AGAINST BLACK/WHITE ISRAELI/ARAB

Join Shorashim and The Jerusalem Post Travel Club for a one-day, English-speaking tour/seminar

By meeting with the personalities, we'll view the Arab-Israeli conflict, behind the headlines, and without media distortion. We'll meet in their homes well known Palestinian personality, Dr. Sari Nuseiba, Director of Al Kuds University, and Ms. Nadia Matar, resident of Efrat and leader of the Women in Green, and hear their opposing views and solutions to the problems. After lunch, we'll proceed to the Knesset, to meet MK Haim Ramon of the Labor Party, a possible future prime minister, and MK Michael Kleiner, a leading member of the government coalition. There will be time for questions, of course.

Space is limited, book early, to avoid disappointment.

The date: TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

The price: NIS185, which includes transportation from Tel Aviv and Jerusalem and return, lunch, and the full program.

Your guide: Yonatan Ben-Dov

Reservations and further information:

SHORASHIM, P.O.B. 7588, 14 Rehov Abarbanel

Rehavia, Jerusalem 91074

Tel. 02-5666231 (9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

Ask for Michal, Romit, or Varda

Tax collection decreasing in Arab councils

Car bomb targeting ex-minister kills one in Medellin

TAX collection in Arab local authorities has been steadily decreasing, even as government funding has steadily increased, Interior Ministry Director-General Ya'acov Efrati told the Knesset Interior Committee yesterday.

Efrati, who was addressing the committee on the financial crisis in Arab municipalities, said they are still underfunded in comparison to Jewish communities. According to the Swary Report on the local authorities, funding for Arab towns is still NIS 150 million short of equality with Jewish townships, he said.

However, he added, the gap has narrowed steadily over the past six years. In 1990, the Arab authorities received only NIS 135m. (in 1996 shekels). This rose to NIS 194m. (in 1996 shekels) in 1991, an increase of 44 percent in real terms; to NIS 253m. in 1992 (up 30.5%), to NIS 313m. in 1993 (23.4%), NIS 417m. in 1994 (33%), NIS 489m. in 1995 (17%), and NIS 516m. in 1996 (5.5%). This is a cumulative increase of 382% in seven years.

At the same time, however, tax collection in the Arab sector has steadily declined. From NIS 36.6m. in 1993, it fell to NIS 32.3m. in 1994 and NIS 25.6m. in 1995, Efrati said. Furthermore, he said, the authorities' combined deficit has remained constant, at about 22% a year, due to rising expenditures.

EVLYN GORDON

"The meaning of this is that the government's continuous effort to increase budgets has not been accompanied by a similar effort on the part of the Arab authorities," he said. "It is inconceivable that the government should increase the grants each year, but the deficit should remain the same."

Tax collection in the Arab sector, he added, is far lower than that in the Jewish sector. The Arab localities collect only about 42% of their potential tax revenues, while in the Jewish sector, the collection rate is over 75%.

Efrati also said that the ministry has decided to reduce the planned cut in all the local authorities' budgets for next year from 3% to 1.5%. However, this still means that Arab authorities will get only NIS 547m., which in real terms is less than they received this year.

Treasury Director-General David Brodet seconded Efrati's statement that increased government funding to the Arab authorities must be accompanied by better tax collection.

Arab local council heads responded angrily that it is hard to collect large sums when they have no industrial base, and rejected Efrati's figures regarding the low rate of tax collection in Arab towns. They also rejected Efrati's

statement that NIS 150m. would be enough to close the Jewish-Arab funding gap, saying they also wanted full coverage of their accumulated deficits - some NIS 420m. - plus NIS 2 billion a year in development funds.

As a minimal first step, said committee chairman Sallah Tarif (Labor), the Arab authorities should be exempt from any budget cut this year.

"It's an embarrassment that after 50 years, we are still in a state of discrimination," he said.

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav said the government will continue its efforts to redress the funding discrimination, and will encourage the development of industry in Arab towns. He also said that two to five Arab villages - Kafar Manda, Rahat, and maybe some others - would be given national priority status under the new map the government is drawing up. This would be the first time an Arab town has received such status, which entails numerous financial benefits.

Ze'ev Boim (Likud) attacked the Arab council heads for having lobbied foreign countries to pressure the government into increasing their funding, saying this violated all norms of proper behavior.

Sallah Tarif (Hadash) responded that the Arabs had been driven to this move by the government's indifference.

A CAR bomb exploded Monday outside the home of a prominent opposition leader in the city of Medellin, killing a neighbor and injuring at least 13 people, police said.

A van packed with dynamite blew up at about 5:30 a.m. in front of the home of Juan Gomez Martinez, a former Medellin mayor and state governor, who stepped down as transport minister in January. He was not home at the time.

Before the explosion, police and the men who planted the bomb were engaged in a lengthy gun battle, Gomez's daughter, Ana Teresa Gomez, told RCN radio.

A Medellin police officer reached by telephone confirmed shots were fired before the

FRANK BAJAK
BOGOTA, Colombia

explosion. The officer, who gave only his last name, Arias, said the bomb was brought to the house by four men.

Police said they have no information on who was behind the attack.

Gomez resigned in January from the cabinet of President Ernesto Samper, amid allegations Samper had links to drug lords. Gomez had joined the government despite being a member of the opposition Conservative Party.

A woman who lived in a neighboring house in the wealthy El Poblado district, Lucia

Ceballos de Bernal, was killed in the blast and 13 people were injured, none of them seriously, Arias said.

Both homes were nearly demolished and adjacent commercial buildings were badly damaged in the blast, which police chief Gen. Alfredo Salgado said was caused by about 50 kilograms of dynamite.

Car bombs planted by the now-defunct Medellin drug cartel in the late 1980s and early 1990s - a time when Gomez was governor and mayor - killed hundreds of people during a war between drug traffickers and the government. In those years, Gomez favored negotiations with the cartel to stop the violence. (AP)



Romina Andrea Vilarte, a three-year-old girl who survived six days lost in the jungle of northeastern Argentina, lies on a hospital bed in Posadas, Argentina Friday. Vilarte was naked and dehydrated when found Friday by police about two miles from her parents' home in rural Campo Vieja. She was taken to a hospital where doctors said she was recovering from infected insect bites and scratches. Authorities said the girl wandered from home; they don't know what happened to her clothing. She told her family she ate wild fruit, tree roots and coconuts in the jungle to survive. (AP)

Judge sentences Palestinian bombers to 20 years

LONDON (AP) - A judge sentenced two Palestinians to 20 years in prison apiece yesterday for conspiring to bomb Israeli and Jewish targets in London.

Sir Patrick Garland recommended that Samar Alami, 30, and Jawad Botmeh, 28, be deported after serving their terms.

A jury last week found the pair guilty of organizing the 1994 bombings of the Israeli Embassy and a Jewish philanthropic organization. A third defendant, Mahmoud Abu-Wardeh, 25, of London, was acquitted.

Garland said the bombings were "were terrorist acts - of waging war in London which caused many millions of pounds of damage and could have caused death or serious injury."

"Why did you do it, perhaps you will never know - but it did not advance the Palestinian cause in this country or in Western Europe," he said.

"I have to pass sentences for what you did - not your motives, however powerful the emotions, frustrations, sense of injustice or anger which might have given rise to them."

Alami, a chemical engineer, shook her head as Garland spoke. Botmeh, who is a businessman, showed no emotion.

In a statement after the hearing,

Israeli Ambassador Moshe Raviv said he was satisfied "that justice has been done."

"Terrorists must know that nothing can or will be achieved by acts of terror and that, in the end, they will be brought to justice," he said.

Charges against a fourth defendant, Nadia Zekra, 49, were dismissed on November 4. She had been charged in connection with the explosion at the Israeli Embassy on July 26, 1994 that injured 14 people.

The blast came a day after prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein officially declared an end to the war between their countries.

Five people were hurt when a second car bomb exploded the next day outside the London offices of the Jewish Philanthropic Organization for Israel and the Middle East.

Prosecutor David Calvert-Smith argued the defendants were inspired by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, but did not act on that group's behalf.

They allegedly formed a group called the "Palestine Resistance Jaffa Group in Palestine" and claimed responsibility for the bombs.

Garland said he accepted that Alami and Botmeh had acted on their own, and "contrary to the declared policy of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Airport detectives find ecstasy pills in electric organ

AIRPORT detectives discovered 22,000 ecstasy pills with a street value of more than \$3.5 million inside an electric organ carried by a passenger at Ben-Gurion Airport, police said yesterday.

The passenger, Donashvili Rafael, an Israeli who lives in Belgium, has been detained on suspicion of drug trafficking, said Asst.-Cmdr. David Mansour, head of the Central Police District's serious crimes division.

Rafael was arrested early last Friday after airport detectives found 22 plastic bags - each containing 1,000 pills of the hallucinogenic drug ecstasy - inside the organ he had brought with him from Belgium, Mansour said. The detectives were tipped off by information from five other suspects arrested about three weeks ago, he said.

Rafael at first said he had come to Israel for medical treatment for his 11-year-old son, but later confessed, Mansour said. Mansour said Rafael admitted coming to Israel 13 times and bringing more than 200,000 pills into the country. The Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court remanded him for five days.

The street value of ecstasy pills is NIS 50, Mansour said. (AP)

Two architects share Wolf Arts Prize

JERUSALEM POST STAFF

TWO pioneers of modern European architecture have won the 1997 Wolf Prize in the Arts, the Wolf Foundation announced yesterday. Prof. Aldo van Eyck, of Amsterdam, and Prof. Frei Otto, of Leonberg, Germany, will share the \$100,000 award.

Van Eyck founded the School of Structural Rationalism in the Netherlands, a movement centered around the School of Architecture of the Technical University at Delft, where he has taught throughout his career, and the

magazine *Forum*, which he edited. Otto designed two unprecedentedly large cable-suspended roofs - at the Olympic Stadium in Munich and for the German pavilion at the 1967 Montreal Expo. He continues his research at the Institute for Light Surface Structures of the University of Stuttgart.

The Wolf Foundation was established by the late Dr. Ricardo Wolf, who was appointed Cuba's ambassador to Israel in 1961, and lived here until his death 20 years later.

Painless test for colon cancer could save 200 Israelis a year

JUDY SIEGEL

ABOUT 200 Israelis could be saved from death from colon cancer each year if everyone over the age of 50 underwent a painless test for occult blood in the stool, the Israel Cancer Association (ICA) and Kapat Holim Clalit said yesterday.

An article published in *The Lancet* last week showed that regular testing reduced the mortality rate by 15% to 18% in Britain and Denmark. The long-term studies followed middle-aged people for 10 years, comparing those who had undergone colon-cancer screening and those who had not.

Dr. Gad Rennan, head of the Cancer Control Center in Clalit's Carmel Hospital in Haifa, said that colon cancer is the most common type of malignant tumor in Israel. Some 1,600 new cases are diagnosed yearly. Although 850,000 have reached the age for testing (people younger than 50 with a family history or inflammatory bowel disease should start getting tested earlier), only about 20,000 are tested annually.

The simple test requires taking a sample of stool and mailing it to a lab, which looks for occult blood. Its presence does not necessarily mean the person has colon cancer; if positive, the patient usually undergoes a colonoscopy.

Rennan noted that to all those aged 50 to 74, the test is free and included in the basket of health services provided by the health funds.

More information about centers from which test kits can be obtained are available from the ICA's Telemeida number (03) 571-7888.

MDA workers halt sanctions

Magen David Adom workers have halted sanctions at least until tomorrow, when a special discussion of their demands will be held by Health and Finance Ministry officials. Last week, MDA workers returned their cellular phones, walkie talkies and beepers and refused to be in touch with their home base while off duty. The workers want the special duty allotment given to hospital workers as well as medics to accompany ambulance drivers. (AP)

Nixon's alternate speech - refusing to resign - comes to light

MIKE FEINSILBER

A week before Richard Nixon resigned from the US presidency in 1974, a defiant speech was prepared for him declaring that he had done nothing "that justifies removing a duly elected president from office" and pledging to fight to keep his presidency.

The speech was never delivered. Instead, Nixon put out a written statement revealing the existence of the famous "smoking gun" tape - showing his complicity in the Watergate cover-up - and waited to judge how the nation reacted.

In the ensuing national rage, Nixon saw that his presidency was doomed and gave up the fight.

The refusal-to-resign draft, a footnote to one of the most dramatic weeks of America's history, has come to light among the 40 million pages of Nixon documents at the National Archives.

Raymond Price, Nixon's chief speech writer, prepared two drafts on August 3 and 4, 1974 - the undelivered text and a resignation speech, marked "Option B."

"Option B" became the basis of the speech Nixon delivered on Thursday, August 8, in which he told the nation he would resign because "I no longer have a strong enough political base in the Congress."

In a telephone interview last week, Price, 66, said he "vaguely" recalled writing the drafts for Nixon "so he could have something on paper that he could look at."

Price did not mention them in his 1977 memoir, *With Nixon*.

Alexander Haig, who was Nixon's chief of staff, said last Friday that he ordered the drafts prepared at an "agonizing and wrenching" time.

"One day he was going to resign, the next day he wasn't," Haig said. "That weekend was about the third time, as I recall, that he was going to and he wasn't going to."

The refusal-to-resign speech has Nixon conceding that he made "a serious mistake" in withholding knowledge of the damaging Watergate tape after listening to it the previous May. He gave it up only when the Supreme Court ordered him to.

In his actual resignation speech - similar to the Price draft only in terms of themes - his mea culpa was softer. He said that "if some of my judgments were wrong - and some were wrong - they were made in what I believed at the time to be the best interests of the nation."

The undelivered speech of defiance has Nixon saying that, whatever his mistakes, "I

firmly believe that I have not committed any act of commission or omission that justifies removing a duly elected president from office. If I did believe that I had committed such an act, I would have resigned long ago."

In that text, Nixon says he would fight for the sake of the presidency.

"We must not let this office be destroyed - or let it fall such easy prey to those who would exult in the breaking of the president that the game becomes a national habit," the draft speech says.

"Therefore, I shall see the constitutional process through - whatever its outcome. I shall appear before the Senate and answer under oath before the Senate any and all questions put to me there."

In another passage, the 2,000-word undelivered speech has Nixon saying that resigning would be the easy way out.

"Some suggest that if I persevere, I am not only ignoring what they consider the inevitable outcome, but doing so at considerable personal

risk," the draft says. "They point to the fact that a president who resigns keeps all the pensions, allowances and other perquisites of an ex-president, whereas one removed by the Senate loses everything - and that he leaves in disgrace."

This text acknowledged that impeachment by the House and trial in the Senate were "almost a foregone conclusion ... the other side has the votes."

As originally conceived, either draft would be the vehicle by which Nixon informed the nation of the "smoking gun" tape. On it, Nixon is heard urging aides to use the CIA to halt the FBI investigation into the June 17, 1972, break-in at Democratic Party headquarters at the Watergate.

Once Nixon made the tape public, on August 5, he was doomed. One by one, his 10 Republican defenders on the House Judiciary Committee changed their minds and said they, too, would vote for impeachment. Congress and the country clamored for Nixon's removal.

Nixon delivered his resignation speech on the night of the eighth and turned over the presidency to vice president Gerald R. Ford on noon the next day. (AP)

Magazine asks historians to rank US presidents

NEW YORK (AP) - Bill Clinton is a "low average" president, and Presidents Reagan, Bush and Carter each fell short of greatness, according to a panel of eminent historians.

Yet Clinton now has a chance to take his place among historical giants - men like Abraham Lincoln, George Washington and Franklin D. Roosevelt - if he brings vision and courage to his second term, wrote historian Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. in the *New York Times Sunday Magazine*.

The magazine asked 32 historians to grade each president great, near great, average, below average or failure. Two voted Clinton near great, two said he was a failure, and he ended up average in the overall ranking.

Schlesinger, whose father commissioned the first presidential historians' poll in 1948, said Clinton can still make a mark on history by pursuing world peace, attacking illiteracy

and "reversing what may become our gravest internal threat - the growing inequality of wealth and opportunity."

Like other ones before it, the poll rated only Lincoln, Washington and Franklin Roosevelt as great because, Schlesinger said, "Great presidents possess, or are possessed by, a vision of an ideal America."

Great presidents weren't always popular in their time, however, and popular presidents weren't always great, said Schlesinger, who wrote the article in which the poll results were published Sunday.

In the survey, Harry Truman was ranked as a near-great president. John F. Kennedy, Clinton's idol, was a high average, along with Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Clinton, Bush, Reagan and Carter were all rated low average. Richard Nixon ranked as a failure.

All You Should Know About Jerusalem

3000 Years in One Volume

In Whose Jerusalem Elyahu Tel boldly tackles the controversial issue of Jerusalem and presents the many facets of its history, religion, demography, archeology, tourism, education, culture and health.

All in all, an extensive 330-page source book with a compendium of 265 quotations and a chronology of 375 dates.

Hardcover, richly illustrated deluxe edition.

"A veritable treasure-trove of facts and figures including some untold stories. No book like this on the market." Teddy Kolek.

"Jerusalem explored and expounded from almost every possible angle." Mayor Ehud Olmert.

"A must read for every Christian." Sister Dr. Rose Thering.

JP Price NIS 99.00 plus delivery costs

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000.

Please send/deliver Whose Jerusalem. Enclosed is my check payable to The Jerusalem Post or credit-card details for:

NIS 109.00 inc. postage
 NIS 115.00 for door-to-door delivery
 NIS 139.00 for overseas air mail*

Visa Mastercard Diners

CC No. _____ Exp. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Code _____

Tel. (day) _____ JD No. _____

Signature _____

*Please list gift-recipients' names and addresses on a separate sheet of paper.

Writer, royal mentor Van der Post dies at 90

LONDON (Reuters) - Sir Laurens van der Post, the South African-born writer and mentor of Britain's Prince Charles, has died peacefully at his London home. He was 90.

Van der Post earned a worldwide reputation as an explorer and writer about Africa in the 1950s. *The Lost World of the Kalahari*, a book about the last way of life of the desert bushmen, became a best-seller on its publication in 1958.

In recent years, he was known as Prince Charles's so-called spiritual guru for helping to develop his interest in alternative lifestyles and non-Christian religions.

He was godfather to Prince William, the eldest son of Charles and his divorced wife Diana, and was reported to have more influence over Charles than any other person. He was also close to former prime minister Margaret Thatcher, who knighted him in 1981.

His discovery of Jung's theory of the collective unconscious, the communality that binds humans across cultural barriers, changed his life.

An imposing man with strong opinions, Van der Post was increasingly pessimistic about

Writer, royal mentor Van der Post dies at 90

man's future.

"At the moment, we're heading straight for destruction. There is the life of the spirit and we have not engaged with it. Our obsession with material things is quite dreadful," he said in a recent interview.

"We have greater power than at any time in our history to control nature, and it has corrupted us. Present society is at the end of its cycle."

Korea
ex-president
death
senten
commu

Check
to free

Gable (car)
sell for \$770

Korean ex-president's death sentence commuted

BRIAN WILLIAMS
SEOUL

A SOUTH Korean appeals court yesterday commuted the death sentence on ex-president Chun Doo Hwan, mastermind of the Kwangju massacre, to life imprisonment. The court also cut the jail term of another ex-president, reduced sentences on a clutch of generals tied to the events and let five business tycoons, including the head of the giant Daewoo group, walk free from bribery charges. In decisions that outraged victims of the Kwangju atrocity and softened the impact of an anti-corruption drive, the Seoul High Court granted leniency to nearly all leading actors in the country's "trial of the century." But the court rejected defense arguments that there could be a "legal" coup and called for an end to revenge in South Korean politics. The most dramatic decision was to commute Chun's death sentence to life imprisonment on charges that included ordering an attack on democracy activists in the southern town of Kwangju in 1980. Several hundred died when a May 18 insurrection was put down by crack paratroopers. The verdicts, laced with sayings from the Chinese classics and even Latin, set off gasps of disbelief and anger among 250 spectators, including families of some Kwangju victims. Outside the court, the mother of one victim, Lee Keum-soon, wept as she denounced the decision as a "prepared script." "My son was handicapped during the Kwangju massacre. The

people of Kwangju are still living with anger from that incident," she told reporters. The three-judge panel cut to 17 years from 22-1/2 years the jail term for Chun's successor, Roh Tae-woo. It also reduced the jail terms of 12 former generals, kept one unchanged and upheld the acquittal of a 14th general. Chun, president from 1980 to 1988 and Roh, president from 1988 to 1993, were convicted of mutiny and treason over a 1979 coup that launched Chun's political career and led to the Kwangju atrocity. Separately, they were found guilty of amassing hundreds of millions of dollars in slush funds. Dressed in pale blue prison uniforms — Chun prisoner 3124 and Roh prisoner 1042 — the two stood side-by-side for the verdicts. Chief Judge Kwon Sung, explaining that a reason for Chun's sentence being commuted was that he peacefully transferred the presidency to Roh, added: "Losing political power doesn't necessarily mean death. We must get away from that kind of political culture and establish the principle that death does not follow a transfer of power. This is as important as punishing the coup," he said. The judge said Roh's sentence was reduced because he was a "follower," not a "mastermind" like Chun. Both men can make a final appeal to the Supreme Court and President Kim Young-sam can also grant full pardons. (Reuters)

Unions, courts deliver fresh blows to Milosevic

PETER MILLERSHIP
BELGRADE

TRADE union support for protests against Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic grew yesterday, as a court banded the opposition a victory in a second town where elections were disputed. Students, union members, and supporters of the opposition Zajedno (Together) coalition protested for the 29th straight day in Belgrade in a face-off with the government over its refusal to reinstate annulled local election results. Zoran Djindjic, a prominent opposition leader, vowed at the Belgrade rally to organize a nationwide protest in the new year to pile the pressure on Milosevic. "One thousand people from each of 30 towns in Serbia will walk to join us here in Belgrade in the new year, we will be world champions in protest marathons," he told the crowd, which fell short of the record 250,000 people

over the weekend. The rallies have a carnival atmosphere despite expressing rock-solid opposition to Milosevic. Security forces have adopted a low profile, although the memory of 1991, when Milosevic used tanks to crush street protests, lingers. In a second breakthrough for Zajedno, a court in the town of Smederevska Palanka ordered the local election commission to respect an annulled local election and give the municipal council to Zajedno. There was a similar order in Nis on Sunday. There was more bad news for Milosevic when the tradi-

tionally pro-government Alliance of Independent Trade Unions of Yugoslavia, the nation's biggest and most influential union group, backed a smaller union's protests. The alliance said it backed last week's decision by Nezavisnost to join anti-Milosevic protests which made it the first union to participate in the rallies. Workers have cited grievances over pay and workers' conditions and rights. Nezavisnost workers plan to demonstrate today outside the Serbian parliament which is due to discuss several draft laws on labor and employment that workers believe will harm their interests. The crisis has shaken Milosevic and given the US a fresh opportunity to fire a broadside pressing him for democratic reform in return for renewed access to capital on international finance markets. (Reuters)



A Rwandan refugee child with his younger sibling in tow walks toward Rwanda from the Benaco refugee camp in Tanzania yesterday. Red Cross officials tied them together so they would not lose each other on the 17 km. walk to the border. Tanzanian police and soldiers are forcibly repatriating more than a half million Rwandans. (AP)

Chechen mission tries to free Russian soldiers

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Chechnya's separatist leaders, anxious to keep the region's delicate peace process on track, yesterday took steps to force a radical field commander to release 21 Russian soldiers he was holding captive. The Interfax news agency said Salman Raduyev, whose men seized the troops on Saturday, had dropped all conditions for their release at a meeting with negotiators from the Dagestani region neighboring Chechnya. It quoted an unnamed Dagestani representative as saying that Raduyev had agreed to free all the

hostages today after a tough warning from separatist premier Aslan Maskhadov. In a contradictory report, Itar-Tass news agency quoted Dagestani security minister Magomed Talboev as saying that Raduyev agreed to release just 10 of the Russian servicemen today, and only if Moscow brought formal apologies to him. Up to 60 Raduyev's men seized the servicemen on Saturday, when they tried to prevent the rebels from entering Dagestan. Raduyev thinks the Russians had no right to stop his men.

Neither of the agencies' reports could be independently confirmed. Russian officials were not immediately available for comment. Chechnya's rebel leaders, anxious to ensure that the troops leave before presidential and parliamentary elections scheduled for January 27, have denounced hostage-taking incidents like Raduyev's in the past and have moved to resolve them quickly. Three top Russian officials in the region overseeing Chechen policy sent Chechnya's president a memorandum on Sunday warning

that unless the Russians are released, Moscow could halt the withdrawal of its forces. But yesterday, Russian commander Vladimir Sukhoruchenko said the incident should not be blown out of proportion. He noted that Raduyev, a radical who led a hostage-taking raid into Dagestan last January, has no link with the Chechen separatists' political and military leadership. "I hope that we all have enough sober sense not to let this incident harm the peace process," Interfax quoted him, as saying.

Corsican separatist leader gives himself up

AJACCIO, Corsica (Reuters) - Corsica's best-known hardline separatist leader, Francois Santoni, gave himself up on the French Mediterranean island hours after police arrested his woman friend yesterday. Santoni, who had been living rough for months in the dense brushland that covers much of the island, surrendered in the northern town of Bastia, they said. Santoni is head of the Cuncolta Naziunalista party, the legal wing of the outlawed Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC)-Historical Wing which police hold responsible for dozens of bomb attacks against public buildings on Corsica in the past few months. Police were seeking him to serve a sentence already passed on arms charges. Police earlier arrested his companion, Marie-Helene Mattel, a lawyer specializing in defending separatists who is also Cuncolta's secretary-general. Interior Ministry sources said a pump shotgun and

a bulletproof vest were found in her home. A wave of separatist bomb attacks, virtually always carried out at night against empty premises have badly hit Corsica's tourist trade. Mattel was detained by police in connection with a bomb attack on Thursday against a luxury golf club which investigators believe was linked to an extortion attempt by separatists. The interior ministry said eight suspects were being held in connection with Thursday's attack on the Sperone golf course which flattened the golf course keeper's house but caused no injuries. Investigators said Mattel's arrest was a sign of the government's determination to restore order on Corsica after President Jacques Chirac last week said bombers would be tracked down relentlessly. The FLNC has threatened to step up attacks on the French mainland as part of its drive for more autonomy from Paris.

Last East German premier found guilty of perjury

DRESDEN (Reuters) - A German court convicted former East German premier Hans Modrow of perjury yesterday, but limited the sentence on the country's last communist leader to a year's probation. The Dresden state court found Modrow, 68, a reformer who led communist East Germany from November 1989 to March 1990, guilty of lying under oath to a state parliamentary committee probing

election fraud in East Germany. "This was not a political trial," said Judge Hans-Peter Kotyba. "It was solely based on whether Modrow committed perjury before the state parliament." Modrow denied he had under oath about vote rigging that occurred in October 1989. His sentence included punishment for a 1995 conviction by the same court for inciting election fraud.

Gable Oscar, script sell for \$770,000

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - An unidentified bidder paid more than \$770,000 on Sunday for a pair of movie artifacts, including an Oscar statuette, once owned by Hollywood legend Clark Gable. Officials with Christie's auction house said the winner bid \$550,000 for the gold-plated, 30-cm. Oscar that Gable won for his role in the 1934 film *It Happened One Night* and \$220,000 for his copy of the script for 1939's *Gone With the Wind*. Including auction fees, which are paid by the buyer, the Oscar fetched \$607,500 and the script \$244,500. Both articles were being sold by Gable's estate as part of a daylong auction of Hollywood memorabilia that raised more than \$1.8 million. Ursula Hermacinski, the Christie's vice president who took the winning bids for both the Oscar and the script over the telephone, declined to identify the victorious bidder. "I think the buyer is thrilled, pretty, pretty thrilled," she said. The winning Oscar bid topped

the previous record price for an Oscar of \$510,000, set in 1993 at Sotheby's auction house for the statuette given to Vivien Leigh when she was named best actress for her role opposite Gable in *Gone With the Wind*. Gable, who died in 1960 at the age of 59, won his only Oscar for his role as a wisecracking newspaper reporter in love with a runaway heiress, played by Claudette Colbert. *It Happened One Night* swept the Academy Awards, with Colbert, director Frank Capra and the film itself also being honored. Among other items auctioned off were one of four famous Rosebud sleds used in the 1941 film *Citizen Kane*, sold for \$210,000; Audrey Meadows's 1954 Emmy Award for the television program *The Honeymooners* (\$26,000); Gable's leather-bound script of *The Misfits* (\$18,000); Gable's passport (\$10,000); Lana Turner's passport (\$2,400); and a swimsuit worn by Pamela Anderson Lee in the popular television program *Baywatch* (\$1,200).

Expert testifies on O.J.'s blood-soaked socks

SANTA MONICA, California (AP) - A scientist testified yesterday that blood appeared to have soaked through a sock found in O.J. Simpson's bedroom, suggesting the blood was planted to frame Simpson for murder. Herbert MacDonell repeated his testimony from the criminal trial, but was not allowed to expand on it because of an attorney agreement barring new disclosures by first-trial experts. Simpson was acquitted of criminal charges a year ago in the knife slayings of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman on June 12, 1994. But relatives of the victims are suing the former American football star for wrongful death in civil

court. The plaintiffs are seeking to convince a jury of Simpson's responsibility for the murders — something prosecutors failed to do. But a criminal trial requires a higher standard of evidence for a conviction. Attorneys successfully defended Simpson in the criminal trial in part by suggesting the former American football star could have been framed through a conspiracy by racist police. Simpson is black, and the victims were white. Much of the prosecution's evidence involved blood found at the scene, on Simpson's automobile and at his house. MacDonell, a bloodstain analyst, found microscopic particles of what appeared to be blood that

had soaked from the outside of the dark sock to the inside, opposite surface. He said this would have been impossible if a foot were in the sock. "Is that consistent with somebody compressing and getting blood on (a side) of the sock and pushing it into the sock?" asked defense attorney Robert Baker. "Yes, it is," MacDonell answered. He also said the blood would have dried within five or 10 minutes, implying it wouldn't have soaked through after the socks were taken off. In another criminal trial testimony rerun, MacDonell recounted his experiment in which he smeared his own blood on a glove

similar to those collected in the case and found the gloves did not shrink, as a glove expert testified they would. The defense sought to ask MacDonell questions about interpretation of crime scene blood to bolster its contention the killings took longer to commit than the plaintiffs claim. But the judge refused to allow that testimony, citing the pretrial agreement between attorneys to limit expert testimony to only what was presented at the criminal trial. Police said they found the socks at the foot of Simpson's bed the day after the killings. Plaintiff witnesses have testified that blood found on the sock was similar to

Simpson's and that of his ex-wife. MacDonell was the first of several defense science experts being called to throw scientific weight behind the police frame-up theory and to sketch an alternate scenario for the killings. Simpson himself may return to the stand this week, answering questions from his own lawyer before the jury is sent home for a two-week Christmas vacation. Also possible this week is a ruling from an Orange County judge in a custody battle between Simpson and the parents of his slain ex-wife over Simpson's younger children, Sydney and Justin. A court spokesman said yesterday no decision had been reached.

SYRIA AND ISRAEL - From War to Peace-making

Moshe Ma'oz examines the history of relations between Israel and Syria throughout the Middle Eastern conflict, demonstrating its crucial importance for the strategic posture of both countries, for the fate of the Palestinian problem, and for the prospects of an overall Middle East peace settlement. Published by Oxford University Press, 1995. Hardcover, 262 pp.

JP Price NIS 149 plus NIS 6 p & h in Israel

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000
Please send me Syria and Israel by Moshe Ma'oz. Enclosed is my check for NIS 155 payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details:
 VISA ISRACARD DINERS AMEX

CC No. _____ Exp. _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Code _____
Tel. (day) _____ ID No. _____
Signature _____

EVERYTHING THAT MEETS THE EYE FROM A-Z

The Hebrew-English Visual Dictionary is an invaluable reference source containing thousands of carefully chosen illustrations and clearly identified terminology. Look up the word from a picture or find the picture from the word. Introductions and indices in Hebrew and English. Published by Carta, 1996. Hardcover, over 750 pp.

JP Price NIS 85, plus NIS 9 for mailing in Israel

ORDER BY PHONE OR FAX
02-6241282
Fax: 02-6241212
e-mail: orders@jpost.co.il

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

Please send me Visual Dictionary. Enclosed is my check for NIS 94 payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details:

VISA ISC DINERS AMEX

CC No. _____ Exp. _____
Name _____ Address _____
City _____ Code _____ ID No. _____
Tel. (day) _____ Signature _____

VISIT US ON <http://www.jpost.co.il>

THE JERUSALEM POST

F. DAVID RADLER Chairman, Board of Directors
YEHUDA LEVY, President & Publisher

Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON

EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Ramat Gan, Jerusalem 91000
Telephone 02-531-5666, Fax 02-538-9527, CIRCULATION - 02-531-5610, ADVERTISING - 02-531-5608, 02-531-5637-40 Fax 02-538-8408, TEL. AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamas, P.O.B. 28398 (61283) Telephone 03-6390333, Fax 6390277.

JEFF BARAK, Editor
GARI SCHRAGER, Managing Editor
AMITZ ASA-EL, Associate Editor, Business
DAN IZENBERG, News Editor
DAVID BRINN, Night Editor
SAM ORBAUM, Features Editor
THOMAS O'DWYER, Foreign Editor
JUDY MONTAGU, Op-Ed Editor

AVI GOLAN, Executive Vice President, Marketing & Advertising
PAUL STASZEWSKI, CPA, Vice President, Finance
YOSSI HORN, Vice President, Production
STANLEY SCHRIGER, Circulation Manager
BENZION MILLER, Tel Aviv Office Manager

A counterproductive letter

A letter signed by former US secretaries of state James Baker, Lawrence Eagleburger, Cyrus Vance and five other former high level American officials slammed possible Israeli "unilateral actions, such as expanding settlements" as "strongly counterproductive."

Israel's top security officials are reportedly warning that Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat may be looking for an excuse to launch, once again, a wave of violent riots like those which followed the opening of the Western Wall Tunnel exit in September. It would be tragic if former US officials helped justify Arafat's excuse for a next round of violence.

In September, Palestinian police stood by as Palestinian rioters charged Israeli military posts before starting a shooting match between the two sides which left 15 IDF soldiers dead and dozens of Palestinians killed. For days previous to the riots, Arafat himself publicly incited violence. On September 24, in Gaza, for example, he told Palestinian security forces, "They will fight for Allah, and they will kill and be killed, and this is a solemn oath... Our blood is cheap compared with the cause which has brought us together... Palestine is our land and Jerusalem is our capital."

Israel was blamed for this violence, though it was clearly instigated and could have been easily prevented by the Palestinian Authority. The resort to violence by the Palestinian side, whatever one thinks of the Israeli policies that preceded it, was a gross violation of the Oslo Accords.

Because Israel was blamed, however, the Palestinians not only escaped condemnation for their actions, but reaped large political rewards.

There are, presumably, many elements to Arafat's calculation as to whether igniting such violence would serve Palestinian interests. There is no doubt that a primary consideration in Arafat's mind is who would be blamed for such violence, Israel or the Palestinians.

If this sort of "spontaneous" violence erupts again and the world holds Israeli policies responsible, then the pressure for Israeli concessions will increase. If, however, the court of world opinion is repelled by Arafat's further resort to violence, then the inevitable and terrible loss of life will produce no Palestinian diplomatic gains.

When the Netanyahu government decided to expand tax breaks to settlements in response to the terrorist attack near Beit El, it chose the least provocative among the "Zionist responses" demanded by key government ministers and the settler community. The government was quick to point out that the decision would not create a

single new settlement, or even commit the government to building a single new house over the Green Line. In fact, in its six months in office, the government has only granted full approval to one instance of settlement expansion, at Kiryat Sefer, which is just over the Green Line.

Notwithstanding the hysteria over Netanyahu's settlement policy, very little has happened on the ground. Judging from the government's actions if not its rhetoric, there will be no new settlement activity, and settlement expansion will be limited to areas within settlement blocs that all parties recognize will remain under Israeli control in any conceivable permanent status agreement.

The fact that the government refuses to explicitly close its options, and that the prime minister speaks emotionally about the imperative of settlement expansion, leaves room for Palestinians to fear the worst. That Palestinians would spin out nightmare scenarios based on some of Netanyahu's statements is perhaps understandable. What makes less sense is when former US secretaries of state bop on this bandwagon.

The American letter calls on Israel not to take controversial "unilateral steps." There is some sense in this. Israel is no longer in a situation, as it was before Oslo, where it had no framework agreement with Palestinians and no Palestinian negotiating partner.

It may seem like a concession for Israel to admit that the Palestinians have a say regarding new Israeli neighborhoods in eastern Jerusalem and in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. In fact, the Oslo Accords have already made that concession, like it or not. The Netanyahu government is right to argue that its actions do not violate the Oslo Accords, but that does not mean they should be taken unilaterally, rather than negotiated with the Palestinians.

It is in Israel's interest to attempt to negotiate quid pro quos with the Palestinians over controversial issues, rather than run the risk of violent Palestinian responses to "unilateral Israeli" actions. Even if the Palestinians refuse to negotiate, Israel can take actions that balance each other out with a similar effect.

Regarding settlements, for example, Israel could expand in areas close to the Green Line, while allowing the Palestinians to expand near Area A cities already under their control.

These sorts of quid pro quos would ideally be reached on a negotiated basis. If that is not possible, then balanced unilateral actions are preferable to unbalanced ones.

The same might be said about criticism by erstwhile friends of Israel. If the secretaries want to offer Israel advice constructively, the way to do it is to also explicitly refuse to justify any violent Palestinian response to Israeli policies. Violence is also a unilateral action, and a much more serious one than declarations about settlements.



No ifs, buts or pretexts

WOULD the murderers of Etra and Ephraim Tzur have fired into an Israeli car on an Israeli highway and thought they could flee safely to Ramallah if those who had joined in similar killings of civilians in Israeli territory since the Oslo accords were now sitting in Israeli jails?

A fundamental principle of criminal law is that prompt prosecution and punishment deters potential offenders. Capital punishment - the most drastic of criminal sanctions - is justified in contemporary society because it may be the only effective means of deterring future murders.

So what is being done to deter the recurrence of random shooting and killing by Palestinian terrorists?

The world community of civilized nations recognizes that deliberate murder is a crime for which there may be no border-crossing sanctuary. By international extradition treaties independent nations undertake to hand over, for prompt trial and punishment in foreign jurisdictions, those against whom there is evidence that they committed murder in a foreign country. No international extradition treaty excludes murder from its list of extraditable offenses.

Only the Palestinian Authority - not yet an independent government entitled to governmental prerogatives in international law - hands over the ordinary criminals but refuses or ignores requests for those who have committed murder on Israeli soil.

And sophisticated Israeli observers, including columnists in the daily Hebrew press and former government officials like Shimon Peres, warn that demanding that the Arafat government surrender these murderers would

NATHAN LEWIN

jeopardize the peace process.

There is no legal difference, however, between permitting the PA to harbor the murderer of 17-year-old David Boim, shot down while waiting at the bus stop near Beit El, or the murderers of Ohad Bacharach and Uri Shalom, students killed hiking in Wadi Kelt, and condoning sanctuary for a bomber of a civilian airline with more than 200 passengers.

Indeed, as the quantity of victims of random terrorist killings is

allowed to increase, the only difference - the sheer number of victims - vanishes.

Providing refuge to murderers is a morally illegitimate act, and to tolerate it in the interest of diplomatic negotiation is simply unacceptable. In addition, the PA explicitly undertook in the Oslo accords the legal obligation to hand over to the Israelis anyone accused of crime within Israeli jurisdiction - an obligation it has now ignored, according to published reports, 17 times in response to requests from the Rabin-Peres governments and 10 times when requested by the Netanyahu government.

The pretext given in some cases by the PA, that it has tried and sentenced the accused in a Palestinian court, would be treated as transparent evasion in any routine extradition.

Treaties customarily delay extradition until after the requesting country has concluded its independent proceeding against an

accused criminal on some other charge. They do not allow minor charges with trivial penalties to be substituted for extradition on a serious charge such as murder.

COMPLIANCE with Israeli extradition requests is essential to generate the confidence needed for real peace. If territory ceded to Palestinian jurisdiction becomes the safe haven for killers of Jews, there can never be any justification, or acceptance in Israel, for creating these perverse cities of refuge.

International law thus justified a principled response from the Netanyahu government at this time, such as a declaration that there will be no further negotiation until the PA complies with its obligation to hand over suspected murderers of Israeli civilians.

And if Israel, for whatever internal political reason, fails to take this firm stance, American law requires the US to demand the extradition of the Palestinian who is alleged to have murdered David Boim, a US citizen.

Under 1992 amendments to America's anti-terrorism law, Congress made it a federal crime to murder an American citizen "outside the United States." The Federal Bureau of Investigation thus has jurisdiction to investigate Binim's murder.

And the US may demand of Israel - and through it, of the PA legitimated by President Clinton's attestation of the Oslo accords - that Amjad Hamoui and anyone involved with him in Boim's murder be extradited for trial in an American court of law.

The writer, a Washington attorney, has participated in international extradition cases in US courts.

Wrong bid

YOSEF GOELL

WHEN Prime Minister Netanyahu stated, in the wake of last week's terrorist murder outside Beit El, that the most urgent objective was the protection of Israeli lives he was right, for the short term.

In the longer term the goal must be to ensure that the outcome of negotiations with the Palestinians on the separation of the two peoples and the future of the territories be in keeping with Israel's basic interests.

Unfortunately Netanyahu's priorities over the past five days endanger both the short- and long-term goals.

Let's look at Israel's weakest and its potentially strongest cards - the settlement issue, and the demand that the Palestinians quash terror as required by Oslo, respectively - in the context of obtaining international support for its policy toward the Palestinians.

Netanyahu should ideally have used the occasion of the terror attack on the Tzur family to demand the implementation of Israel's right to hot pursuit after the murderers into Ramallah.

Given the fact that Netanyahu and his Likud government have as good as caved in on that demand, at the very least they should have made it clear that Ramallah would be closed tight until the terrorist murderers were apprehended and surrendered to Israel.

Even this Netanyahu did not do. Instead he played his weakest suit by pandering to the settlers.

Suppose he didn't intend actually expanding the settlements - as he reportedly assured the US and others abroad; he has already incurred all the damage that could have been expected from such statements.

The heightened international pressure now generated regarding the settlements has made it well-

The premier had a strong card and a weak one. Guess which one he played

nigh impossible for Israel to press the more urgent issue of Arafat's failure to cooperate in quashing continuing Palestinian terrorism.

Netanyahu's shortsighted uncoupling of the settlement genie has done something else: It has allowed Arafat to seize the high moral ground as the supposedly aggrieved party.

An interim assessment of the past week's events will certainly encourage the PLO leader to continue using sporadic terrorism and mass demonstrations to shore up his positions in the negotiations.

THERE is good reason to fear that just as the combined IDF and security services were incapable of preventing the Beit El murders despite excellent intelligence warnings about the imminence and probable location of the attack, it will prove virtually impossible to provide reasonable security to other outlying and exposed settlements and roads.

And the population at greatest risk will most likely be the Jewish settlement in the heart of Arab Hebron once the IDF is redeployed from the city.

In a broader context, the most danger lies in carrying out further Israeli withdrawals from the bulk of Area B, which would leave most of the Israeli settlements perilously exposed islands in a murderously-minded Palestinian sea.

Netanyahu's instinct to skip the implementation of those phased withdrawals and go on to the final stage negotiations is basically correct. But massive US and international support for such a shift will be essential to overcome Arafat's opposition.

The assumption underlying the Oslo plan of phased negotiations was that each successive phase would be part of a cumulative confidence-building process, one that would overcome mutual distrust sufficiently to permit a final settlement.

But not only did such confidence-building not develop, there was actually a regression, evident even in the last year of the previous government.

If the process cannot continue on the basis of trust, then, it may instead go forward on the basis of mutual self-interest.

How can Israel muster the international support it needs for a change in basic assumptions and a new negotiating timetable? Only by indicating that it is prepared to give up many of the settlements as part of a final agreement on dividing the territory, in exchange for a persuasive Palestinian commitment to our security.

The writer comments on current affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE WALL IN PRE-STATE DAYS

Sir, - In his letter of December 5 about the mehitzta at the Western Wall, Rabbi Michael M. Cohen, president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association, writes: "...with all due respect to Chief Rabbi Lau, the area of the Wall has not always been set up like an Orthodox synagogue. A look at pre-State pictures will show the lack of a mehitzta..."

The writer seems to be unaware that in pre-State days, the Jews were not permitted to have a mehitzta at the Wall. On Yom Kippur at the year 5689 (autumn 1928), British police removed by force the separation between men and women on the pavement in front of the Wall.

In December 1930 the report of the commission appointed by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland appeared. With the approval of the Council of the League of Nations, it determined the rights and claims of Moslems and Jews in connection with the Wall in Jerusalem. On page 53, it states "...the Commission passes verdict that it shall be prohibited to place on the pavement in front of the Wall... any screens or curtains either for separating men from women or for any other purpose..."

The conclusions of the commission were accepted and enacted by the British government.

T. PRESCHEL

DONUTS

Sir, - Further to Helen Kaye's article of December 5 on doughnuts, I would like to relate another version of the Hanukka story. Judah Maccabee, on his way to the Temple Mount, bought a sufganiya at a local kiosk and was able to squeeze enough oil out of it to last eight days.

JOSEPH A. REIF

CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOR

Sir, - My husband and I spent our second holiday in Jerusalem in October. There are no words to express the admiration we hold for Israel and the Israelis, and for what you have achieved since independence.

However, there was one discordant note and that concerned the behavior of schoolchildren, especially out on school visits. One day, we went to Yad Vashem and whilst walking around the grounds, were constantly irritated and bumped into by children chattering in loud voices, running round and generally making nuisances of themselves. Whilst being out in the fresh air could be an excuse for high spirits, we found it appalling when our quiet reflection in the Hall of Remembrance was constantly disturbed by other children, a little older this time, between 12 and 15, literally shouting at the tops of their voices just outside the entrance.

A little later in the Memorial to the Children, 15 to 20 teenagers marched through, shattering our peace with chatter, singing songs and calling to each other. When asked to be quiet, they answered us back with scorn or disdain.

The guide books tell us that Israeli children are spoiled and indulged by the older generation as they symbolize the spirit and freedom of an independent Israel. We have no quarrel with this, but are they not also taught respect? Have they no respect for those who never reached Eretz Yisrael and have they no consideration or sensitivity for those of us who wish to pay our own respects?

MARIA DOYLE

Basildon, Essex.

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AT MOSHAV TZIPOPRI

Sir, - I would like to correct some inaccuracies in the Grapevine column of December 4 concerning religious practices at Moshav Tzipori.

We have never borrowed a Torah scroll from Hoshaya. In fact, they have on occasion borrowed a Torah scroll from us. We have three, one of which was brought here by a member of the moshav on the back of a donkey from Kurdistan. Until 25 years ago, there were two synagogues in Tzipori - one Ashkenazi and one Sephardi. Today, services are conducted in the cultural center, where a new ark, table and parochet have been bought within the last two years with donations from moshav members.

While religious practice at Tzipori is not booming, it is carried out to varying degrees by many of the 80 families resident here.

DAVID ZETLER

Moshav Tzipori.

LIKELIHOOD OF WAR

Sir, - Your leader of December 3 states that "the limits of Egypt's belligerent stance toward Israel may have been reached for the moment."

In my view, there is a very strong likelihood of full-scale warfare breaking out in a very short period between Israel and Egypt and Syria. There are no indicators to the contrary. And your optimistic declaration should be taken with a grain of salt. We are not saying that war will break out this week or next week, but it could happen far sooner than all your commentators think.

DANIEL BEN-YAAKOV

Jerusalem.

Art for... Sderot... come-grow... to Tel Av... Essence of M... CONCERT MO...

'Art' for entertainment's sake

Art by Yasmina Reza. Hebrew, Nissim Aloni. Direction, Hillel Mittelpunktch. Set, Avi Sechvi. Costumes, Orna Smorgonsky. Beit Lessin Theater at the Erez Auditorium, Ramat Aviv. Hebrew title: Omann.

ART is an evening of non-stop sophisticated adult wit and consummate comedy performances by a trio of what are probably Israel's most suave and sophisticated actors. It is truly a production that mustn't be missed. Which of us ventures for culture, highbrow or lowbrow, has not been confronted in our hot pursuit of modernism with a canvas as hinderingly blank as virgin snow? This is the vexed theme that disrupts the friendship of three very macho males in this witty, well-timed play. It is written by the writer is an accomplished young female French dramatist who infuses the piece with sparkling wit, high-sounding intellectual input, subtle slapstick, and endless, side-splitting irony.

Deconstructionism or, as Ivan ultimately explodes, "white garbage," is put on trial for an hour and a half with hilarious results. The imitable Yossi Banai, teamed with TV star Sasson Gabai, and the less well-known Avi Oria, make for a piquant and rousing combination of character contrasts. Avi Oria in the role of Ivan, the compliant, henpecked and generally harassed mediator, displays a finely tuned, histrionic restraint rare among our local actors. Thanks to that and a refreshing, spontaneous charm, he practically steals the show from his more famous counterparts.

Direction. The fast-paced and polished direction is supported by a hand, simple but stylish set that

THEATER ROUNDUP NAOMI DOUDAI

proves a cool background to the mad melee of ongoing antics. For intelligent if light entertainment, this production rates, I am assured by those who have seen both, quite as high as the English version now playing in London with Albert Finney in the lead.

Anna Galactia (Scenes from an Execution) by Howard Barker. Hebrew, Eran Baniel. Direction, Ofira Hoeng. Lighting, Judy Kupferman. Costumes, Rakafet Levy. Music, Yehuda Poliker. At the Khan Theater, Jerusalem.

WITH Anna Galactia, the Khan adhas for the first time in years mounted a production that is little short of a masterpiece. Or would be that were it not for two forgivable flaws. The first, felt only at the very end, is a worrying, questionably weak finish that concludes a magnificently textured and translated play. The second - inevitable considering the limitations of local theater when it comes to highly tuned drama - relates to the general level of performance. But first let's chalk up the wonders.

What direction has painted here with remarkable virtuosity is a canvas rich in the aesthetics that glorify the Old Masters of the late Renaissance. With its blend of Christian charity says ok, dramatic violence, religious passion, gruesome stigma, and burning artistic integrity, it is a realization that reaches above and beyond the modern message of Howard Barker's text. Originally a radio play (addwhich won the Prix Roma, in 1985) it has played in

Israel twice with Eran Baniel directing, first in a Voice of Israel drama, next as theater piece in Beit Zvi.

Ofira Hoeng's creative exploitation of the natural stone and entire architectural environs of the old Turkish khan in which the present theater stands, is nothing less than inspired. It is the supreme in monumental sets for sure. The set is monumental too. Illuminated by a symphony of unique lighting effects by Judy Kupferman, and a collection of Rakafet Levy's rich costumes, each and every one a work of portraiture art in itself, the mise-en-scene and setting addcombined with Poliker's power-music is from the very start arresting.

These constitute the leading stars in a show that is as much an exercise in period reproduction as an exciting theatrical event. There is of course the playadood, that in Howard Barker's eloquent poetic prose projects the limits to the power, aggressive daring and intellectual independence exerted by an extraordinary woman artist.

Her struggle against the political interests, the infinitely inferior spiritual integrity, moral penitence and sexual enslavement of the men in her life is the central theme of the drama. The portraits that emerge from the text are memorable, even if the sequel, if intended as ironic, is too too subtle in impact, addand makes for a conclusion that is far from theatrically satisfactory. As tofor the actors', (Bassam Za'amut's vivid personification of the Admiral excepted) portrayal of Renaissance Venetian potentates and their courtiers, with their high

language and aristocratic airs, is herehis proves quite beyond their rhetorical powers as it is, indeed, of the average Israeli actor (Bassam Za'amut's vivid personification of the Admiral exceptedis a notable exception).

One example is Lilian Barenzo's lamentable lame Renaissance cognoscenta. Failing to rise to the climax that heralds the turning point in the play, her performance helps to downplay the surprise ending and thematic reversal.

In smaller but significantly performed roles are the aesthetic, genuinely gifted Ya'acov Ayal (Sordo) the striking Nir Ron (Pardo), and addthe sensitive Yoram Josefberg (Callisto), who number among those many precious talents too rarely utilized, presumably because too "special" for our theaters.

Towering above them all, and in a sense, monopolizing the stage throughout though without ever upstaging, is a leading lady of powerful dimensions and unusual attractions. Fat, ugly (onstage at least) and over 50, she is, in the lusty pursuit of love, truth, and beauty, the epitome of spiritual as well as fleshly majesty and glamour. Gita Munte's Galactia is a powerful, dynamic and moving creation. Her aesthetic no less than her carnal qualities, her artist's flamboyant egocentricity, abounding intellectual and corporal energy and her feline sensuality and eroticism, are the nerves and sinews of this drama.

There is however, a basic lack of balance in her presentation. Emancipated womanhood with its coarse, defiant, outer display of unbridled power is here never qualified by the inner, delicately strung nervous working of the artistic sensibility.



Sasson Gabai (left), Yossi Banai (center) and Avi Oria bring suave sophistication to 'Art.'

Sderot brings home-grown talent to Tel Aviv

CHARLES SOLOMON

THE Negev development town of Sderot has, over the past decade, been witness to a musical and cultural phenomenon unlike anything else in Israel. Last Thursday the town showcased its music with a 12-hour music marathon at Tel Aviv's Einav Cultural Center. The event was the brainchild of musician and bandleader Haim Utiel, the prime mover and shaker in Sderot's fertile music scene, together with Haim Shiran, the head of the multiethnic Inhal Center in Tel Aviv and of Radio 3. In the morning, five groups were each given a 20-minute slot to perform six songs, two of which were broadcast live on Radio 3. All showed promise, talent and a great amount of enthusiasm. Most of these groups start their careers by rehearsing and performing in the town's bomb shelters, going on to play at weddings, bar mitzvas and cultural events in Sderot.

Most notable was Mediatzia, who combined songwriting flair with impressive dexterity. Siga, recent arrivals from Kazakhstan who sing in their native language, were warmly

received by an enthusiastic crowd even though their lyrics were lost on the Israeli audience.

The afternoon's four established groups were Ha'atula (heavy rock); Renaissance (an interesting blend of ethnic, middle-eastern rock); Knesiat Hasechel ("art-rock"); and most promisingly, Tanara, which has a major talent in frontman Micha Biton (whose day job is work as a drama teacher). Finally, a two-hour set by the "godfathers" of Sderot's music scene, Lehakat Sfatayim, included the appearance of guests such as Izhar Ashdot, Shlomo Bar (a pioneer of ethnic music in Israel), and Ehud Banai. Sfatayim, which has been together for over a decade, plays traditional Moroccan music, welding traditional and modern styles. The group's frontman, the charismatic Utiel, is also heavily involved in helping and encouraging young Sderot musicians take their first tentative steps into the jungle known as the music business.

For years local musicians have looked to the outside world for inspiration, yet much can be found on their own doorsteps.

Essence of Mozart

CONCERT ROUNDUP

MURRAY Perahia showed himself to be an immaculate Mozart pianist as he delved into the Mozart C minor (K.491) piano concerto. He revealed the true essence of the concerto, expressing all the pain, suffering and tragedy in this concerto. The tragedy is most apparent in the finale, which was played with extraordinary intensity and much sorrow. Perahia played this concerto somewhat faster than usual and gave one of the most scorching and revealing performances I have attended in a long time. Monn Auditorium, Tel Aviv, December 8. Michael Ajzenstadt

which was predominantly vocal, included chanting of locally based, non-rhythmical Supplications (*bakashot*) and metrical hymns (*piyyutim*) of Andalusian origin with Hebrew adaptations of the original Arabic texts.

Singers Meir Elazar Atiya and David Moyal, though sounding somewhat improvised, made the songs highly structured. Yeshuah Aznlay's violin, played Arab-style on the knee, characteristically responded in the same melismatic style as that of the vocal performance.

Jerusalem Music Center, Mishkenot Sha'ananim, December 8-12. Ury Eppstein

AN "Ethnic Week of Music Cultures" featured daily workshops, master classes, lectures and concerts, focusing each day on one of this country's musical traditions, such as Judeo-Spanish singing, liturgies of Eastern Orthodox churches, and Arab instruments.

The East European Klezmer tradition, represented by the ensemble of Muss Berlin, one of the genre's outstanding clarinetists, displayed the instrument's capacity of weeping, wailing, giggling, dancing and also meditating.

Meir Rosen is perhaps one of the last of the "Fiddler on the Roof" style violinists. Leib Riegler's keyboard, Menahem Herman's electric guitar, and Avi Yishai's jazzy drum set carried authenticity to the extreme. The rich Moroccan repertoire,

GUSET conductor Avner Biran, director of the Rubin Academy, led the Sinfonietta "Classical Two" program. Unusual was Haydn's marvelously lively Sinfonia Concertante in B featuring local soloists Yaron Prensky on violin, Joel Lifshitz playing oboe, Alexander Fine on bassoon and Ya'akov Gluzman on cello. Their playing was technically flashy but rhythmically dry, without much rubato, or fun. The inner voices were emphasized at the expense of the principal melody lines in Britten's *Simple Symphony*. The string tone was pinched.

The interpretation of Mozart's popular G minor Symphony No. 40 was another matter. Though the surface sound was stressed, the effect was dynamic. Beershebo Conservatory, December 14. Max Stern

The dark side of Evan Dando

Car Burton Cloth - THE LEMONHEADS (Hed Artzt)

IN TUNE
DAVID BRINN



The Lemonheads' Evan Dando - back with a vengeance

Evan Dando must be the Brian Wilson of the '90s. Brilliantly talented, wildly eccentric and with a nasty streak of self-destructiveness, Dando scales pop heights with his charming three-minute gems, but his life is a mess.

He has released two of the decade's brightest moments as leader - and the only constant member - of a revolving-door club called The Lemonheads. 1992's *It's A Shame About Ray* is a pop-punk masterpiece that sounds as fresh today as the day it was recorded. And 1993's *Come On Feel The Lemonheads*, while not as consistent as *Ray*, displayed depth, maturity and a mixing of folk and celtic country accompaniments.

Due to Dando's teen-idol good looks and self-perpetuating flakiness, he was never accepted into "serious" rock circles, and erratic behavior and a serious drug problem have pretty much incapacitated him for the last three years. But relatively cleaned up, he's back with a vengeance on *Car Burton Cloth*.

Dando has not lost any of his knack for writing instant pop classics. Combining early REM guitar jangle and a '60s pop sensibility, Dando's songs sound just about perfect from first listen.

But delve beneath the often kooky, yet charming, childlike lyrics, and you'll find a troubled soul. While on *Come On*, Dando hint-

ed at a dark side with his two versions of "Don't Wanna Get High," here he openly reveals his deep wounds. "Losing My Mind" is so personal, it's nearly uncomfortable to listen to, while "Hospital" and "Break Me," with its beautifully delicate verses juxtaposed against a grunge chorus, reveal Dando's fragile mental state.

But it's not all an exercise in morbid introspection. Dando's shaggy-dog self-deprecating style is never more evident than on the hilarious countrified "The Outdoor Type" in which he admits to his outdoorsy girlfriend that he has been duping her and prefers the television to a tent.

"I never learned to swim, can't grow a beard or even fight, I lied about being the Outdoor type." But no matter whether the lyrics are lighthearted, deadly serious or

just plain goofy, surrounded by Dando's impeccable pop instincts and his crack band's spunk, they become submerged as the melodies take on a life of their own.

Let's hope Dando has beaten his demons, and will continue to take us, as he offered four years ago in *Ray*, on his "rockin' stroll."

Spirits of the World - VARIOUS ARTISTS (Helleon)

A new-age extravaganza guaranteed to soothe and calm the most savage beast. Helleon dipped into a multitude of World music styles to come up with this enjoyable compilation.

From Enigma's radio hit "Return to Innocence" to Mike Oldfield's Tubular Bells rehash "Sentinel" to the theme songs from the films *The Mission* and *The Piano*, there are no loud noises or smashing drums to spoil the mood.

This year's Eurovision contest winner, Secret Garden's pleasant "Nocturne" is typical of this atypical collection.

People of the Song

EHUD Banai is back following a multi-year absence from the local music scene with *Od Me'or* ("Soon") (NMC). And it's taking the country by storm, topping the charts and permeating the airwaves.

Banai is probably the best there is at synthesizing Mediterranean and rock styles, and he shows no signs of tiring.

A rushed 'Investigation'

DANCE REVIEW
ORA BRAFMAN

Investigation - (premiere). Liat Dror and Nir Ben-Gal - The Company.

Investigation by Liat Dror and Nir Ben-Gal loses ground when it slides into philosophical spheres. The eight-months-pregnant Dror duplicates her role of Mother Earth while doing the belly dance from the Tractor's *Inia Omari*, now colored by Japanese tunes. The result is a work that holds little interest and leaves a stale taste of a rush job.

Curtain Up, program no. 1 at Suzanne Dellal, Premieres: *Nothing But* - Noa Dar; *Poppins* - Anat Danielli; *The Land of*

Sad Oranges - Barak Marshall.

THREE new works by young choreographers of the promising kind partially fulfilled expectations. Dar, the veteran of the three, has matured tremendously. "Dealing with the Zionist dream, she got good support from the Tractor's Revenge musicians, who played live on stage, and the highly imaginative set designer Moshik Yosipov. Marshall brought his mom, legendary dancer Margalit Oved, onto the stage and her vocal performance was overpowering. *Poppins* was sheer poetry. Danielli inclines toward minimalism and this is her most minimalist work yet.

TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15

THIS LAST WEEKS ON WEEK CHARTS		ARTIST	TITLE
#1	1	EHUD BANAI	OD MEAT
#2	3	SPICE GIRLS	SPICE
#3	4	TOMI B RAXTON	SECRETS
#4	2	ENIGMA	LE ROI EST MORT
#5	5	RAMI KLEINSTEIN	COLLECTION
#6	7	RITA	COLLECTION
#7	NEW!	VIA	HIT LIST 5
#8	8	VIA	SPIRIT OF THE WORLD
#9	10	VAYA CON DIOS	BEST OF
#10	11	SHLOMO ARTZI	SHINAIM
#11	6	SIMPLY RED	GREATEST HITS
#12	17	SOUND TRACK	EVITA
#13	20	ALANIS MORISSETTE	JAGGED LITTLE...
#14	RE	PETER ANDRE	NATURAL
#15	RE	NO DOUBT	TRAGIC KINGDOM

Tower Records' top-selling albums for last week

A Korean on kibbutz

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THERE are not many Korean girls who have visited Israel as often as harpist Jung Kwak. But in the last three years the Seoul-born harpist who currently resides in Rochester, New York, has performed several times in a land which for many years she didn't even know existed.

Kwak's Israeli affair began in 1993 when she performed as a soloist accompanying the Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra in its tour of Korea. The success of those concerts brought Kwak to Israel where she has played many times since, both with the same and other orchestras and in recitals, the last of which was at the Israel Museum last summer. Now Kwak is back for further concerts with the Kibbutz orchestra.

She also plans another visit here in 1998, in order to enter the International Harp Competition. In December 1994 Kwak attended the previous competition but did not enter upon her own choice. "In '98, when I'm 26, I will be ready for it. It's one of the most important harp competitions in the world and there was no point in

coming unprepared," she says.

Kwak actually never intended to become a harpist but instead dreamed of becoming a doctor, following a strong family tradition. "I played the piano since age three but I didn't love it. At 12 I began playing the harp as a hobby but after two years I fell in love with the instrument and I knew this would be my profession. It's simply the perfect instrument for me. My father was shocked. He thought it was too expensive."

At age 14 Kwak moved from Seoul to the US. "I missed my family and Korea a lot. It was weird being in Bloomington. But I worked hard as a student. That was my life." And it definitely paid off. She has since won various competitions and performed in concerts and recitals all over the world.

Jung Kwak plays the Mozart flute and harp concerto with flutist Ariel Zukerman and the Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra under Avi Ostrovsky tomorrow in Nahariya, Saturday in Tzavta in Tel Aviv, Sunday in Dorot and next Wednesday in Ein Hahoresh.

GIVE SOLDIERS LIFTS!

FESTIVAL OF LITURGICAL MUSIC IN JERUSALEM
24.12.96 - 9.1.97

David Shallon, Conductor
The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, IBA
The Royal Scottish National Orchestra Choir & Soloists
• Kodaly - Paganini Hungarian
• Mendelssohn - Psalm 2
• Bernstein - "Kaddish" (Speaker: Haim Topol)
Henry Crown Symphony Hall
Thu. December 24 at 8:00 p.m.

Nicholas McGegan, Conductor
The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, IBA
Royal Scottish National Orchestra Choir & Soloists
• Handel - "Samsol", Gratias
Henry Crown Symphony Hall
Sun. December 29 at 8:00 p.m.

Tickets:
Klaim, 02-625689; Bismol, 02-6250905;
Jerusalem Symphony Box Office, 02-5611488;
Central, 02-5467085;
and at ticket offices throughout the country.

Lorin Maazel, Conductor
The Symphony Orchestra of the Bavarian Radio
The Choir of the Bavarian Radio
The Leipzig Radio Choir
The Stuttgart Radio Choir & Soloists
• Brahms - A German Requiem, Opus 45
Binyami Ha'vona, JCC
Wed. January 8 at 8:00 p.m.

Lorin Maazel, Conductor
Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, IBA
The Symphony Orchestra of the Bavarian Radio
The Leipzig Radio Choir
The Stuttgart Radio Choir
The Choir of the Bavarian Radio & Soloists
• Schubert - Mass in G Major, D. 167
(Conductor: Michael Gilzer)
• Penderecki - "The Seven Gates of Jerusalem"
Binyami Ha'vona, JCC
Thur. January 9 at 8:00 p.m.

ISRAELCARD

For ISRAELCARD holders only
The second ticket is free
for the second person in the party
Cultural Department

WALL DISCOUNT BANK
The support of art and culture.

For a full list of events and
Telephone 02 - 6294454
24 hours a day

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Tuesday, December 17, 1996

US firm closes \$12m. Israel fund

TIM QUINSON
BOSTON

NEW England Investment Cos., which in March launched a \$12 million Growth Fund of Israel in conjunction with the B'nai B'rith organization, said it will liquidate the fund next month due to its failure to attract enough investors.

"While we feel the Israeli economy remains a good long-term investment, the turmoil in the region makes it a more speculative investment than most other single-country funds and reduces the universe of potential investors," company spokesman Lawrence Dwyer said last Friday.

The fund, which had grown by 2.5% since its inception, was closed to newcomers last Friday. Existing shareholders will have their money transferred to the New England Star Worldwide Fund on January 31, unless investors request their money be returned, or transferred to another New England fund.

New England's Israel fund was launched about six months after Sunstone Financial Group of Milwaukee closed an Israel fund because it was unable to attract enough investors.

(Bloomberg Business News)

Shekem to sell its food business to Super-Sol

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

SUPER-SOL is close to finalizing an agreement whereby it will acquire Shekem's food business from Elco Holdings, a source close to Super-Sol said yesterday.

Shekem is negotiating to sell its food business as part of a restructuring program focusing on retail trade. The program was initiated in 1995, in an attempt to save the financially troubled retail department-store chain.

Shekem is in touch with several companies engaged in the sector; the company said in an announcement to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday. "These contacts have not yet come to anything," said Shekem.

Shekem discussed the sale with Co-Op and Super-Sol but reached the serious negotiation stage only with the latter, said a source. The two companies each have an annual sales turnover of about NIS 3 billion compared with Shekem's food division which has a turnover of about NIS 400m.

Super-Sol vice president of marketing and purchasing Ya'acov Ginzburg confirmed that the chain has met with Elco.

Antitrust Authority director-general Yoram Turbowicz has given Elco his agreement in principle to negotiate with local supermarket chains. Once a sale agreement is reached, it will most probably be subject to various limitations so as to ensure fair market competition.

Of the 32 supermarkets owned by Shekem, the chain intends to sell about 20 stores including Super-Shekem and Hyper-Shekem stores. The package will not include the food floor in the Shekem Gallery store in Tel Aviv which is mainly aimed at middle and upper income bracket customers. Other food stores situated in related properties, like in the Ayalon shopping mall, will also remain unsold.

Elco, which is controlled by businessman Gershon Zelikind, acquired Shekem through privatization in late 1994. Since then, the chain has been reconstructed to include three divisions - food, electronics and department stores, but the company continues to suffer from heavy losses.

Shekem finished the third quarter with almost double the loss it made in the same period last year to NIS 16.6 million, compared to a loss of NIS 8.9m. in the same quarter last year.

Official '97 inflation target set at 7%-10%

THE inflation target for 1997 has been set at 7 percent to 10%, a goal agreed upon jointly by Finance Minister Dan Meridor and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel.

The target shows little change from that set for this year - 8% to 10%. However, it is expected this year's inflation rate will total 10%-11%. Following Sunday's publication of the November Consumer Price Index, inflation is running at an annual 10.58% in 1996.

Meridor told a gathering of leading managers that there is a chance the inflation rate can be lowered, "if we drive correctly and with a great deal of care."

If passed, the current budget proposals will put into force fiscal restraint, along with the current monetary restraint, said Meridor.

If these two elements are matched by economic responsibility on the part of employers

DAVID HARRIS

and the Histadrut, "inflation could possibly decrease even further next year," Meridor added.

While calling for lower inflation, the Manufacturers Association has complained over the last two years that the Bank of Israel is only interested in reducing inflation, irrespective of other economic factors. The association blames the industrial sector's drop in earnings on high interest rates and the freezing of the exchange rate, and says these must be attended to.

According to association president Dan Propper the inflation rate has remained at 11%, despite Frenkel's insistence that it is falling.

"Anyone who thinks the inflation rate will

fall to 2%-3% by 2000 does not know what he is talking about. This is simply not possible in a monopolistic economy with many large government-owned companies that are not competitive," said Propper.

The Treasury has also made a list of predictions of the other key economic indicators for 1997. These were all set in late October:

- Economic growth at 4% of GDP.
- Investment in housing construction down 6.8%.
- Trade and service exports up 7.1%.
- Unemployment to rise by 0.5% to 6.9%.

While Meridor and Frenkel have approved the target, they are scheduled to meet Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu tonight to discuss the strategy for achieving this rate and the multi-year inflation rate until 2001, a senior Bank of Israel source reported last night.



The first Boeing 737-700 is towed to the paint shop from the hangar where it was assembled before being presented in Boeing livery to the staff. Boeing announced a \$13.3 billion merger with McDonnell Douglas on Monday, making the partnership the world's largest aerospace company. Boeing will continue to concentrate on the civil aviation market while McDonnell Douglas will concentrate on military aircraft.

Ilanot, Batucha complete merger

Jerusalem Post Staff

ILANOT Discount, the mutual-fund management company of the Discount Investments group, and Batucha Securities and Investments, of Clal Capital Markets, yesterday signed a merger agreement.

The two companies, whose combined portfolios last year totalled more than \$2.5 billion, will conclude their merger at the start of 1997, thus creating Israel's largest investment-management firm.

The merger will be based on an equal partnership in which Discount and Clal each will have a 50 percent stake. According to the agreement, full ownership of Ilanot Discount will be transferred to Batucha and, in exchange, Batucha shares will be allocated to Discount investments.

Following the merger, the new firm will have an equity capital of NIS 130m, and manage total assets of about NIS 3.5b.

Meridor: Plan for competition in car insurance market by March

THE Treasury will come up with a proposal to open compulsory car insurance to competition by the end of March, Finance Minister Dan Meridor promised Knesset Law Committee chairman Shaul Yahalom yesterday.

"The insurance oversight division will do its best to examine the situation and formulate recommendations regarding possible alternatives for the operation of the car insurance sector by the end of March, 1997," Meridor wrote in a letter to Yahalom. "I will review these recommendations to formulate a policy, which will be incorporated into government-sponsored legislation as soon as possible."

In light of this letter, Yahalom, who chairs a joint subcommittee of the Law and Finance commit-

EVELYN GORDON

tees on this subject, agreed to let the subcommittee resume work on a bill authorizing the Avner insurance fund to operate for another year.

Avner currently handles all compulsory car insurance - including all claims for personal injury - and all insurance companies are required to contribute to it.

The committee's discussions were broken off two weeks ago, after Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair refused to let Supervisor of Monopolies Dr. Yoram Turbowicz express his opinion on whether the Avner system violates anti-trust laws.

Even before this, however, Yahalom had been demanding a commitment such as Meridor gave

yesterday in exchange for passing the bill, as he believes Avner violates the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation.

Prof. Amir Barnea and former attorney-general Michael Harish supported this position during appearances before the committee.

Yahalom also argued that allowing competition would make coverage cheaper and more efficient.

As of June 30, Avner had an accumulated deficit of NIS 660 million, down from over NIS 1 billion two years earlier.

However, not all MKs agree. Subcommittee member Michael Kleiner, for instance, said he believes the Avner system is the only way to ensure that the poor get decent coverage at affordable prices.

Interior Ministry agrees to additional budget cut

HEALTH Ministry's annual budget for medical treatment for VIPs (current and former ministers and MKs) will be reduced by NIS 1 million (to NIS 4m.), while its allocations for public health programs, special grants for urgent medical treatment and the functioning of ministry headquarters will be cut by NIS 3m.

The Health Ministry last night finalized a plan, approved by the Treasury, for cutting its budget by NIS 26m. Health Minister Yehoshua Matza said the effects of the reduction were "relatively minimal" but represented the ministry's part in the national effort for economic recovery.

A total of NIS 6m. would be cut from wages in government hospitals; this would necessitate a reduction of 34 job slots and 40 man-months of work (mostly non-tenured staffers on private contracts). Hospitals will also have to cut their food and drug expenses by NIS 8m.

In addition, the development budget for building and renovation will be cut by NIS 5m.

Ministry spokesman Efi Lahav said allocations for special medical treatment for VIPs are a long tradition in the government and could not be eliminated completely. He said the cut in hospital medications and food would affect "extras" and not harm patients.

DAVID HARRIS
and JUDY SIEGEL

come out of the Chief Scientist's R&D budget, NIS 19m. from spending on industry infrastructure in development towns, with much of the remainder coming from equipment purchases. The ministry will also scale down its aid to exporters and reduce its activities abroad.

The Defense Ministry, however, has still to decide where from where it will cut the required NIS 150m. Sources in the Treasury said they are confident the details will soon be finalized, adding that as far as the Treasury is concerned, this is an internal Defense Ministry matter.

Tourism development programs will take the brunt of the NIS 22m. cut in the Tourism Ministry budget. This was the result of Sunday night's meeting between Tourism Minister Moshe Katzav, Netanyahu, and Meridor.

The three agreed that following the dramatic fall in tourism this year, it would be wrong for cuts to be made in the tourism marketing budget.

Senior Tourism Ministry officials will spend the coming days deciding where exactly the savings will be made. "We don't have many choices," Ministry spokeswoman Orly Doron said. "Should we make the cut in our Negev project, archeology, or Nazareth [2000]? At the moment it seems likely the cuts will come in all development activities."

The final decision will be made by Katzav, without having to refer back to the Treasury or Prime Minister's Office.

Gov't makes calculation error in int'l calls tender

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Communications Ministry tender board, which last month unanimously awarded the Kavei Zahav and Barak consortia the right to provide overseas dialling services to competition with Bezeq, committed an "arithmetical error" involving a fraction of a point, but this did not change the results of the tender, the ministry said yesterday.

The Dolphine consortium (comprised of BellSouth USA, Safra, Discount Investments, TelGlobe Canada, Israeast and S. Pieterkowsky) had appealed the results of the tender, in which it was rated number three and thus a loser, last month. But when the tender board reassembled yesterday morning at the request of Communications Minister Limor Livnat, members realized that Dolphine should have been 0.15 points behind Barak (number 2) instead of 0.13 points, as released in the official tender results.

Livnat was not happy about the error and asked for an examination of its cause.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Industry and Trade Ministry announces plan for Ofakim: Following Vishay Intertechnology's October decision not to open a new plant in Ofakim, the Industry and Trade Ministry announced yesterday a package of measures for the development town with one of Israel's highest unemployment rates. Among the projects approved by the Investments Center are the construction of a \$20 million plastics factory by Keter Plastic, which will employ 70 to 100 people; the expansion of ECI Telecom Ltd.'s factory, increasing its workforce from 170 to 470; and the establishment of a new \$6m. linen factory.

David Harris

Eitan names panel to prepare a program for development of villages in the 21st century. The team will examine the social and economic lives of kibbutzim, moshavim and other small settlements. Initial recommendations must be presented to Eitan within six months. The committee will be chaired by Economic and Village Planning Authority director Mordechai Cohen.

David Harris

Azerbaijan investments agency reps are in Israel this week to learn how to encourage foreign entrepreneurs to invest in their domestic economy. The group, here under the auspices of the United Nations, is the guest of the Center for Business Promotion unit of the Industry and Trade Ministry.

David Harris

Israel, Italy sign agreement on statistical information cooperation. The memorandum of understanding was signed by Government Statistician Joseph Yahav and Italian National Institute of Statistics director-general Paolo Garonna at the weekend.

David Harris

Communications Minister Limor Livnat leaves for Budapest today at the invitation of her Hungarian counterpart, Karoly Lutz. She will be accompanied by a large delegation of telecommunications specialists from Bezeq, Tadiran, Aurek and other companies. Livnat will discuss satellite communications and encourage the Hungarians to purchase Israeli telecommunications equipment. Israelis have invested some \$500 million in Hungary so far.

Judy Siegel

Postal rates rise by an average of 6% today, following approval yesterday by the Knesset Economics Committee. The cost of a regular domestic letter will be NIS 1.10 instead of NIS 1.05, but the fee for sending a package to soldiers will drop by 19.3% to NIS 7.10. The cost of an aerogram will be NIS 1.30 (up from NIS 1.20), sending a regular package up to 20 kilos inside Israel will cost NIS 9.80 (instead of NIS 8.50); registering a piece of mail NIS 3.90 (NIS 3.60); and an airmail letter up to 20 grams to the US NIS 2. (NIS 1.90). An airmail letter to Europe now costs NIS 1.70 (NIS 1.60), and a domestic telegram: NIS 19.90 (NIS 18.50).

Judy Siegel

Bank Tefahot to tap secondary market

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TEFAHOT Israel Mortgage Bank intends to raise capital via a secondary mortgage market, in an attempt to raise long-term financing.

During the last few months many of the mortgage banks have experienced hardships in raising long-term capital resources because of the crisis that developed in the capital market in 1996. As a result of the public's large withdrawals from the provident funds, most of the commercial banks have reached their leading limits to mortgage banks. The funds assets are necessary to guarantee long-term lending.

Tefahot yesterday said it has entered discussions with several professional companies about an arrangement whereby it will sell them mortgage-backed securities in return for long-term loans. The bank said it will sell loans to a third party which issues securities traded on the exchange against them.

The bank expects to complete the first transaction at the start of 1997.

Two years ago Tefahot had already forecasted mortgage banks would experience difficulties in raising long-term capital, a development which will force them to seek alternative channels to raise capital.

"Raising capital through the secondary market is particularly popular in America," said Bank Tefahot.

Bezeq may install ISDN lines in all new homes

JUDY SIEGEL

BEZEQ has begun to look into the possibility of installing integrated service digital network (ISDN) lines instead of conventional phone lines into all new homes to allow simultaneous access to the Internet and multimedia services, outgoing Bezeq director-general Yitzhak Kaul said yesterday.

Kaul added that the installation of ISDN lines is "a bit more expensive - about 50 percent more" than regular lines, but it is several times more useful and effectively functions like two phone lines. An ISDN line allows users to make a phone call, surf the Internet and send a fax over the same line simultaneously.

Speaking at an Internet conference in Kfar Hamaccabiah, Kaul said the country is moving from a period of inadequate information and a surplus of infrastructure to one of an oversupply of data and a shortage of infrastructure, but one in which Bezeq will face competition.

Bezeq will reconsider its investments in infrastructure, especially when it seems competition will focus in high-demand areas (rather than the periphery). The trend is to integrate infrastructure: regular phones, cellular phones, cables, satellite transmissions, data transmissions and

Tourism slump led to hotel layoffs

HAIM SHAPIRO

HUNDREDS of hotel workers have been fired in Jerusalem and there is danger of another wave of dismissals, according to Yonatan Harpaz, director of the Jerusalem Hotel Association.

He said that as a result of the drop in foreign tourists this year, average hotel occupancy has ranged from 30 percent to 40% during the beginning of December. Harpaz was speaking at a press conference to announce a campaign offering special deals to Israelis vacationing in the capital.

In addition to discounts, hotels in the city are offering reductions and free entry to cultural events and historic sites, free meals and free additional nights. The association has set up a special toll free number (177-022-3424) for those seeking information about the campaign.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS				
Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	3 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	5.000	5.250	2.250
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.411	5.661	5.911	2.911
German mark (DM 200,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250	1.750
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.825	1.825	2.125	1.625
Yen (10 million yen)	0.825	0.750	1.000	1.000

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (16.12.96)					
Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rate
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.870	3.897	3.870	3.897	3.880
German mark	2.262	3.318	3.20	3.26	3.280
Pound sterling	5.041	2.127	2.05	2.18	2.100
French franc	6.824	5.484	5.31	5.58	5.445
Japanese yen (100)	0.8214	0.8315	0.81	0.85	0.820
Dutch florin	2.9842	2.9104	2.81	2.96	2.8815
Swiss franc	1.9681	1.8933	1.83	1.88	1.8785
Spanish peseta	2.4681	2.4958	2.41	2.54	2.484
Norwegian krona	0.4783	0.4948	0.46	0.50	0.478
Danish krone	0.5475	0.5107	0.49	0.52	0.505
Finland mark	0.5025	0.5884	0.58	0.73	0.705
Canadian dollar	0.7020	0.7134	0.68	0.67	0.695
Australian dollar	2.5902	2.4288	2.34	2.47	2.405
S. African rand	2.3846	2.2623	2.54	2.67	2.605
Belgian franc (10)	0.8913	0.7125	0.73	0.73	0.73
Austrian schilling (10)	1.0185	1.0320	0.82	0.71	0.885
Italian lira (1000)	2.9792	3.0273	0.99	1.05	1.022
Jordanian dinar	2.1255	2.1888	2.92	3.07	2.995
Egyptian pound	0.8300	0.8400	0.83	0.84	0.835
Irish punt	4.0531	4.1188	4.08	4.11	4.095
Spanish peseta (100)	5.4061	5.4923	5.31	5.67	5.415
	2.4900	2.5020	2.44	2.57	2.504

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel. SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Want to keep in close touch with your securities till 11 PM?

JOIN THE TELEBANK
CALL 03-912111 FROM 8 AM TO 11 PM

ISRAELI DISCOUNT BANK

Key Representative Rates
US DollarNIS 3.2810 +0.06%
SterlingNIS 5.4415 +0.11%
MarkNIS 2.1090 -0.80%

NEW YORK STOCK MARKETS
New York market indexes
DJ Industrials 14970
DJ 30 14970
NYSE Composite 14970

Other stock market indexes
FTSE 100 3963.8 +0.4%
Nikkei 225 15127.5 +0.1%

Israeli stocks in US
NYSE / AMEX / NASDAQ / OTC
Amel 37.76 +0.26
Amel A 4.825 +0.126

International Money Markets
Dollar crosses (US)
Pound spot 1.6693 +0.0085
Euro spot 1.6625 +0.0094

LIBOR rates
3 months 5.75
6 months 5.75
9 months 5.75

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

US commodities
Cocoa (Mar) 1302 -5
Coffee (Mar) 105.90 +0.17

London commodities
Cocoa (Mar) 1302 -5
Coffee (Mar) 105.90 +0.17

Spot market metals (US)
Copper 368.1 +0.5
Silver 4.81 +0.04

New York metal futures
Gold (Feb) 369.9 +0.8
Silver (Feb) 4.81 +0.04

London metal futures
Gold (Feb) 369.9 +0.8
Silver (Feb) 4.81 +0.04

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading
Two-sided trading
AFTERNOON MORNING
Name Price Change Volume Price Change Volume

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

NEW YORK
Aapl 127.25 +0.25
Amgen 47.50 +0.125
Amgen A 4.825 +0.126

TASE shares end flat in selective trading

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET
DAN GERSTENFELD
205.79 +0.10%
213.77 +0.01%

SHARES closed almost unchanged yesterday in selective trading as investors cheered the low November consumer price index but expressed concerns about the political situation, dealers said.

London shares end slightly higher

LONDON (Reuters) - Shares ended modestly higher yesterday, underpinned by a firmer Wall Street, but trading volumes were thin as investors remained wary about a possible near-term US self-off, dealers said.

Blue chips dragged lower by weak technology shares

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks closed lower yesterday as a sharp drop in technology shares cut short the market's rally propelled by news of Boeing Co. and McDonnell Douglas Corp.'s mega merger.

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The responsibility is mine. I said what I said regarding certain assessments that I received from some of the security forces, and I have no intention of elaborating.

AYALON

(Continued from Page 1)
The source said that Netanyahu, according to the transcripts, repeatedly asked: "Are you sure about the timing?"

PARIS

PARIS (Reuters) - The source said that Netanyahu, according to the transcripts, repeatedly asked: "Are you sure about the timing?"

FRANKFURT

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - The source said that Netanyahu, according to the transcripts, repeatedly asked: "Are you sure about the timing?"

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Shares ended modestly higher yesterday, underpinned by a firmer Wall Street, but trading volumes were thin as investors remained wary about a possible near-term US self-off, dealers said.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks closed lower yesterday as a sharp drop in technology shares cut short the market's rally propelled by news of Boeing Co. and McDonnell Douglas Corp.'s mega merger.

PARIS (Reuters) - The source said that Netanyahu, according to the transcripts, repeatedly asked: "Are you sure about the timing?"

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - The source said that Netanyahu, according to the transcripts, repeatedly asked: "Are you sure about the timing?"

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP (continued)
LONDON (Reuters) - Shares ended modestly higher yesterday, underpinned by a firmer Wall Street, but trading volumes were thin as investors remained wary about a possible near-term US self-off, dealers said.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks closed lower yesterday as a sharp drop in technology shares cut short the market's rally propelled by news of Boeing Co. and McDonnell Douglas Corp.'s mega merger.

PARIS (Reuters) - The source said that Netanyahu, according to the transcripts, repeatedly asked: "Are you sure about the timing?"

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - The source said that Netanyahu, according to the transcripts, repeatedly asked: "Are you sure about the timing?"

Canucks belt Blues, 8-0

ST LOUIS — Alexander Mogilny and Pavel Bure, reunited for just the second time this season, combined for five goals and Corey Hirsch stopped 42 shots for his second shutout as the Vancouver Canucks belted the Blues 8-0.

Mogilny recorded his first hat trick of the season and Bure snapped out of a scoring slump with two goals and three assists, helping Vancouver (15-14-1) break a three-game skid.

"It's all a matter of timing. Some days they go in and some days they don't," Mogilny said. "We got a lot of open ice, so we don't want to get carried away with this."

"They left Grant Fuhr all by himself. It wasn't really his fault. It's kind of sad."

The Blues (15-16-1) suffered their fifth straight home loss and their worst shutout defeat since an 8-0 whitewash at the hands of the

Boston Bruins in March 1974.

"We have to come to a realization, hopefully sooner than later, that we have to have a commitment from our best players," said St. Louis coach Mike Keenan. "We didn't get much from our best players, including Brett Hull. Right now, they're not dedicated."

"The future of the team is questionable, not very bright."

Blackhawks 2, Penguins 1
Defenseman Keith Carney's tie-breaking goal with 1:12 left in regulation gave host Chicago the victory.

The Blackhawks' second straight victory snapped Pittsburgh's six-game winning and 10-game unbeaten streaks.

Pittsburgh's Jason Woolley and Chicago's Tony Amonte also scored.

The Penguins hadn't been held to one goal since a 2-1 loss at Boston on November 14.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Florida	18	6	7	43	96	87
Philadelphia	19	12	2	40	99	94
New Jersey	16	11	3	36	79	74
N.Y. Rangers	14	14	5	33	112	93
Washington	13	16	2	28	82	85
N.Y. Islanders	10	12	4	24	81	81
Tampa Bay	10	15	3	23	78	87

Northeast Division

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Hartford	14	9	6	34	90	88
Buffalo	15	14	2	32	89	88
Pittsburgh	14	14	3	31	108	105
Montreal	12	15	5	29	107	112
Boston	10	15	5	26	81	107
Ottawa	8	16	7	23	74	92

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Dallas	15	10	3	38	89	73
Detroit	17	9	5	39	90	56
St. Louis	15	16	1	31	91	103
Chicago	14	16	3	31	83	84
Phoenix	12	15	4	28	78	85
Toronto	12	20	2	24	90	113

Pacific Division

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Colorado	18	9	4	40	109	89
Vancouver	15	14	1	31	86	94
Edmonton	14	16	3	31	106	101
Los Angeles	12	15	4	28	84	99
Calgary	12	15	4	28	80	85
Anaheim	11	18	5	27	90	105
San Jose	11	15	4	26	75	97

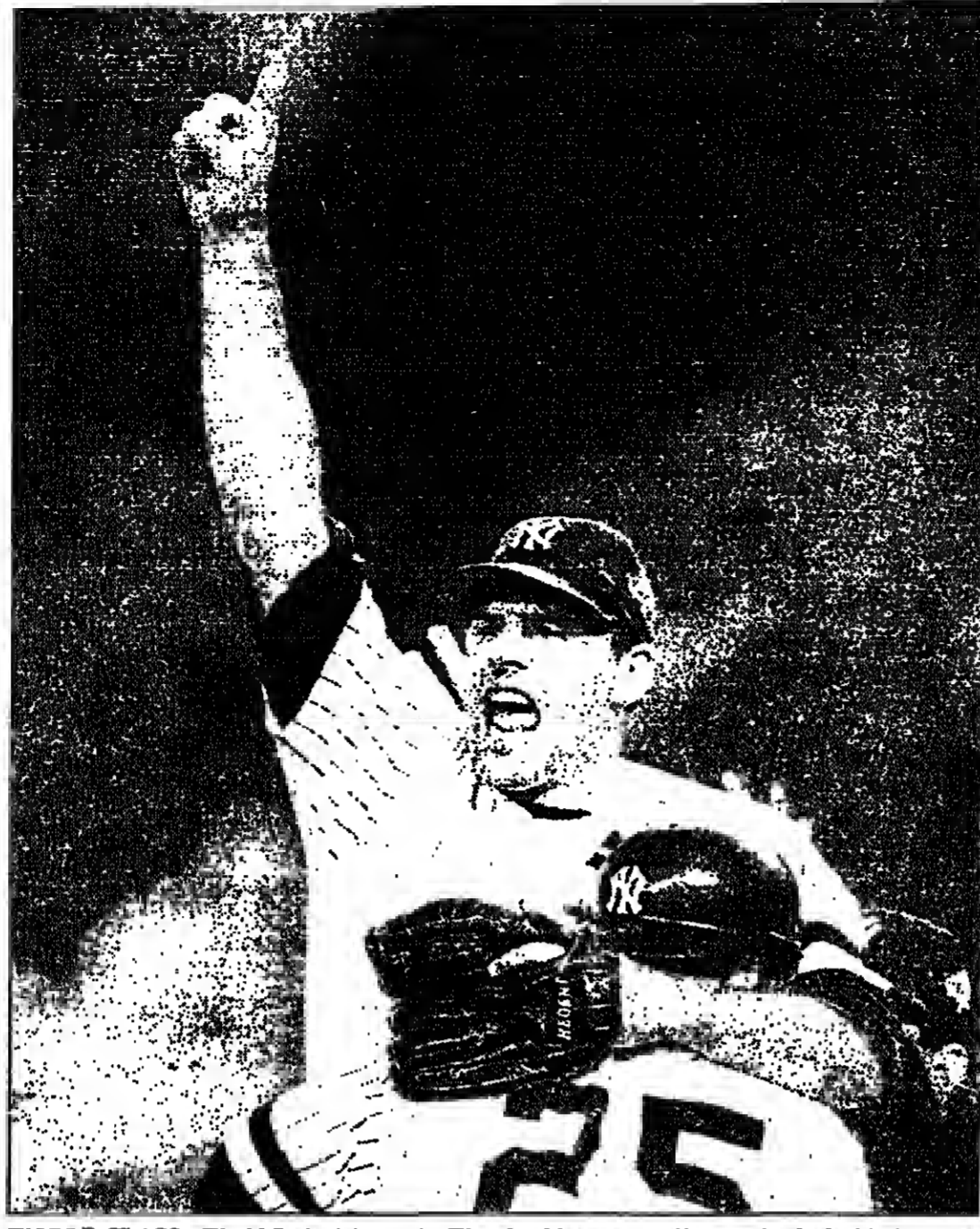
SUNDAY'S RESULTS:

Florida 6, Edmonton 3
Dallas 4, Ottawa 0
Vancouver 8, St. Louis 0
Chicago 2, Pittsburgh 1
Philadelphia 6, Boston 0
Detroit 3, Toronto 1

(Reuter, AP)

(Through Sunday)

G	PG	A	Pts	PIM	
Jagr, PIT	31	30	13	43	32
Gretzky, NYR	33	13	30	43	4
Forsberg, NYR	31	12	31	43	20
Lamoureux, PIT	30	15	27	42	24
Selanne, ANA	32	17	24	41	14
Sundin, TOR	32	17	23	40	18
Sakic, COL	31	14	28	40	14
Kovru, MON	30	13	25	38	20
Yzerman, DET	31	10	28	38	28
Pally, NYI	30	20	17	37	27
Rasch, MON	32	14	21	35	38
Amonte, CHI	33	21	13	34	24
Francis, PIT	31	8	25	34	14
Sanderson, HAR	29	18	15	33	13
Leclair, PHI	33	18	15	33	28
Shanahan, DET	30	17	16	33	56
Leetch, NYR	33	18	25	33	18
Nowak, PHO	31	16	18	32	28
Savage, MON	31	15	18	32	27
Mogilny, VAN	28	15	15	30	4



WORLD CLASS - World Series MVP John Wetteland has reportedly closed a deal with the Texas Rangers. (Reuter)

Report: Wetteland joins Rangers

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — John Wetteland, the relief pitcher whose MVP performance helped the New York Yankees win the World Series, is headed for Texas.

A source close to the negotiations told The Associated Press that the free agent pitcher is close to signing a deal with the Texas Rangers. Media outlets in Texas and New York, however, say he has already agreed to a contract with the Rangers.

Newspapers in Texas — *The Dallas Morning News* and *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* — and three New York newspapers — *The New York Times*, *Daily News* and *New York Post* — reported yesterday that Wetteland and the Rangers came to terms Sunday night.

"Anyone who knows me knows I wanted to get something done and get on with my life," Wetteland told *The New York Times*. "I throw fastballs and I have that attitude in a lot of other things. The decision came down to me. It's not that they didn't do this or do that. I am not that kind of person."

Citing unidentified sources, *The New York Times* and *Daily News* said Wetteland will receive a four-year, \$23 million deal. Meanwhile, *The New York Post* and Dallas-Fort Worth television station KXAS, also citing unidentified sources, put the deal at \$21 million over four years.

The deal would fill the Rangers' greatest need — a top reliever. At the same time, the Yankees would lose another key player from the team that won the championship.

Texas has been seeking a closer since Mike Henneman filed for free agency after recording a career-high 31 saves.

Wetteland, 30, led the AL with 43 saves and was 2-

3 with a 2.83 ERA during the regular season. He was successful on 43 of 47 save chances. Henneman, 35, was 0-7 with a career-high 5.07 ERA despite his 31 saves.

Wetteland, who made \$4 million last season, turned down a \$4.6 million player option after the Yankees beat Atlanta for the championship. Wetteland became the first pitcher ever to record four saves in a World Series.

Without Wetteland, the Yankees would move star setup man Mariano Rivera into the closer's role. Rivera was 8-3 with a 2.09 ERA, along with 130 strikeouts in 107 2/3 innings, in his first full season in the majors.

"I think Rivera deserves the opportunity to take over that role, but we'll only know if he's ready physically when we try it," Yankees manager Joe Torre told *The Daily News*. "He definitely has the stomach for it, but he is not as durable as John. ... I'm going to miss John a lot. Personally I get very close to him. He conducted himself as a professional at all times."

The Yankees, whose \$66 million payroll last season was the highest in the majors, lost out Friday in their bid to sign free agent Roger Clemens. Recently, Jimmy Key, who won the clinching Game 6 of the World Series for the Yankees, left New York and signed with Baltimore.

Yankees owner George Steinbrenner said last week he hadn't made any firm offers to Wetteland or David Wells, a starting pitcher that New York covets. But Wells and Steinbrenner met during the weekend in Tampa, and the pitcher's agent said he expected an offer from the owner shortly.

Bogus Israeli weightlifter gets off light

LOCAL SCENE
HEATHER CHAIT

WEIGHTLIFTING: The sentence handed down to weightlifter Vacislav Ivanovsky, whose fictitious marriage allowed him a ticket to the Olympics, was relatively light: a year's prison sentence suspended and deportation from Israel after he testifies in the trial of his coach, Moshe Brena.

Vacislav's brother, Alex, landed himself with a seven-month suspended sentence and a NIS 5,000 fine (the same sum Vacislav's wife received as part of the deal) while Olga, the wife, or prostitute as was later exposed, received a year's suspended sentence and a NIS 10,000 fine.

European Nations Championships, failed badly on two successive days. The team of Isak Abramov, Erez Sela, Yaniv Sharon, Itai Ben-Ari and Shimon Rabinovich had nothing against Russia's superiority and were beaten 4-0 at both meetings in Lod.

OLYMPIC CONFERENCE: The 'Process of Training and Competition in view of the Atlanta Olympic Games' will be the subject of the post-Olympic symposium to be held at the Wingate Institute under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee. About 350 experts are expected to attend and among those already registered are Prince Alexander de Merode from Monaco, IOC Sports Director Gilbert Felli and Israel's representative on the IOC, Alex Gladyl.

Various top level coaches from around the world will also be present as well as delegates from Jordan and Morocco. The conference will be held from December 28-30.

SWIMMING: That they didn't take him to Atlanta has luckily not affected young Mickey Halika's ability. At a competition in Jerusalem last week, the swimmer clocked 2:08.72 in the 200 meters individual medley and 2:22.40 in the 200m breaststroke. Yoav Bruck, part of the victorious Olympic relay team, swam the 100m freestyle in 52.64 and the 100m butterfly in 59.00.

TAEKWANDO: A record number of 525 taekwondo enthusiasts from 46 clubs, including 100 girls, collected at Kibbutz Tzor 'a for the annual championships last week. The high standard was marked by the fact that Canadian Raz Keshlsh, trying for a ticket to the World Championships, lost to Loik Lahum, an immigrant from France, in the final of the 70 kilogram category. Other outstanding athletes were Tomer Ajmog, Erez Ha'aroni and Yanonah Wahl while Tamar Golan, the hope for the Sydney Olympics, was unparalleled among the women.

TENNIS: In preparing for the Australian Open which starts January 13 in Melbourne, Eyal Erlich left this week for a training camp in Miami with coach Dedi Ya'acov. Israelis trying their luck in the qualifying rounds in Melbourne will be Eyal Ran, Erlich, Nir Welgreen and Noam Behr while Anna Smashnova and Hila Rosen will be among the women hopefuls.

Comparing year-end rankings of 1995 and 1996 show a slight improvement among the local players: Ran moves from 160 last year to 154, Behr from 304 to 296, Welgreen is up from 445 to 265 and Raviv Weidenfeld jumps the most, from 798 to 277.

TABLE TENNIS: The national men's table tennis team, in a bid to advance to Level A of the

FOOD FOR SPORT: It may be just what Israel's athletes have been lacking — that extra burst of energy. Developed by the Wingate Institute and Dr. Green, and manufactured by Solo, 'Spower' is a range of all-natural products researched by doctors and nutritionists for overall enhanced performance, from sports fields to army bases.

The range is divided into three with one group of capsules for heightened energy before exercise, the second enriched with calcium and iron for general improved health and the third to be taken during and after exertion.

Wimbledon's Jones fined for not-so-funny humor piece

LONDON (Reuter) — Wimbledon's Vinnie Jones was fined a week's pay by his Wimbledon club yesterday for writing a mocking newspaper article that offended his teammates.

The rebellious Wales international has also apologized individually to every squad member in the Premier League club and agreed to donate his £2,000 fee from the paper to the players' pool.

"I am also upset that I have upset their families," said Jones after he was summoned by manager Joe Kinnear and chairman Sam Hammam.

His story assessed his colleagues on their abilities at the bar and on the catwalk, as well as in a "ruck" (fight).

SPORTS BRIEFS

- Erikssohn named next Blackburn coach**
Sampdoria coach Sveo Goran Erikssohn was named as the new manager of former English champions Blackburn Rovers yesterday — although he will not join the club until next July.
- Blackburn still caretaker-manager**
Tony Parkes would remain in charge for the rest of the season.
- Blackburn, English champions in 1995**
with Kenny Dalglish at the helm, finished seventh last season under manager Ray Harford. (Reuter)
- Weah banned for six games**
UEFA fair play ambassador George Weah had a one-match ban for head-butting a Portuguese opponent extended to six games yesterday.
- AC Milan's Liberian striker**
was handed a six-match suspension after a special investigation by UEFA into the head-butting incident last month in Portugal.
- UEFA had originally suspended Weah**
for one match while they launched an inquiry into the incident which took place in the players' tunnel after last month's Champions' League match with Porto. (Reuter)
- Flyers acquire Coffey from Whalers**
The Philadelphia Flyers completed the much-anticipated trade for Paul Coffey on Sunday, acquiring the NHL's all-time leading scorer among defensemen from the Hartford Whalers.
- The Flyers sent the Whalers defenseman Kevin Haller**
and two 1997 draft picks, including a first round selection, in return for the 35-year-old Coffey. (AP)

Kansas, Wake Forest, Kentucky stay 1-2-3; Maryland debuts at 25

NEW YORK (AP) — Kansas, Wake Forest and Kentucky held the top three spots in the college basketball poll yesterday, while Maryland jumped into the rankings for the first time this season at No. 25.

The Jayhawks (9-0) were the runaway No. 1 choice for the third straight week, receiving 66 first-place votes and 1,770 points from the media panel.

Wake Forest (7-0) was again the only other team to receive a No. 1 vote. The Demon Deacons had five and 1,703 points, 86 more than Kentucky (7-1).

The big three all won big last week, going a combined 5-0 with the closest game being a 24-point victory.

Michigan moved up one spot to fourth and Iowa State made the same climb to No. 5. Arizona

moved up two places to sixth and Cincinnati held No. 7.

Clemson, which was 10th last week, moved to No. 8, while Utah held ninth. Villanova, which lost its first game of the season to Duke on Saturday, dropped from No. 4 to round out the Top Ten.

Duke jumped three spots to 11th and was followed by North Carolina, Indiana, Texas, New Mexico, Minnesota, Xavier of

Ohio, Louisville, Arkansas and Alabama.

The last five spots went to Fresno State, Stanford, Texas Tech, UCLA and the newcomer, Maryland.

The Terrapins (7-0) were ranked for the first three weeks of last season, reaching as high as 14th before dropping out for the rest of the year on the way to a 17-13 record. The last three wins are

their most impressive of the season — California, George Washington and Georgia Tech.

Boston College (4-1) fell from the rankings despite winning its only game of the week, 59-52 over Vanderbilt. The only loss for the Eagles, who were ranked 25th last week, was to Connecticut.

The week's biggest jumps were the four-place improvements by No. 18 Louisville and No. 20 Alabama. Louisville (6-0) beat Dayton and Purdue last week, while the Crimson Tide (8-0) beat Western Carolina.

The biggest drop was Villanova's six-place fall to 10th, although No. 21 Fresno State and No. 23 Texas Tech each fell five spots after losses in the state of Texas. Fresno State lost at Texas in the third game of a 10-game road trip that ends January 6, while Texas Tech lost at Texas Christian in a matchup of former Southwest Conference members.

Race chief to face trial over Senna death

ROME (Reuter) — Formula One team chief Frank Williams and five other officials will go on trial in Italy next February charged with manslaughter over the death of driver Ayrton Senna, Williams' Italian lawyer said yesterday.

Lawyer Roberto Causo said the trial was scheduled to open on February 20 before in Imola, where Senna, a Brazilian, was killed in a crash during the San Marino Grand Prix on May 1, 1994.

"We deny the charges absolutely," Causo said.

He would not say whether any of his clients would attend the trial or exercise their right under Italian law to stay away.

Also charged with manslaughter are Imola race track director Federico Bendinelli and a former track official, Giorgio Poggi. They, too, deny the charges.

"We will attempt to show that the race track bore no responsibility for what happened," one of their lawyers, Roberto Landi, said by telephone from Bologna, central Italy.

An expert report for Bologna prosecutor Maurizio Passarini, who led investigations into Senna's death, concluded that the car's steering column had been modified and snapped as a result of a poor weld as the vehicle took the curve.

CLASSIFIEDS

RATES

PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS - All rates include VAT:

Single Weekday - NIS 128.70 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 12.87

FRIDAY AND HOLIDAY EVE - NIS 198.90 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 19.89

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY (package) - NIS 292.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 29.25

WEEK RATE (8 insertions) - NIS 400.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 40.05

FOUR FRIDAYS (package) - NIS 526.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 52.65

MONTHLY (24 insertions) - NIS 994.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 99.45

New Rates are valid until February 28, 1997.

DEADLINES offices:
Jerusalem - weekdays: 12 noon the day before publication; for Friday 4 p.m. on Thursday.
Tel Aviv and Haifa - weekdays: 12 noon, 2 days before publication; for Friday and Sunday: 4 p.m. Thursday in Tel Aviv and 12 noon Thursday in Haifa.

For telephone enquiries please call 02-5315644.

DWELLINGS
General

WHERE TO STAY

JERUSALEM LODGES LTD.
Short and long term rentals.
Bed and breakfast.
P.O. Box 4233, Jerusalem 91044.
Tel. 02-5611745, Fax: 02-561-6541.

DWELLINGS
Jerusalem Area

HOLIDAY RENTALS

HOLIDAY FURNISHED APARTMENTS
and rooms for short periods, throughout Jerusalem, low prices. Special information services for files and rooms. 21 King George St., Jerusalem, Tel. 02-625-8919, Fax: 02-625-7205.

RENTALS

CHARMING HOUSE, VIEW Old City, spacious park-like grounds, 5 rooms, furnished. Only \$2,200/month. Available January, possibly longer, private party. Tel. 02-8721895, fax 02-8727448.

SALES

FOR SALE, ARMONA, penthouse, 180, view, elevator, covered parking, no agents, \$520,000. Tel. 03-9430884, 052-787168.

GERMAN COLONY, 2 quiet, central, 20 sq.m. basement, garden, underground parking. Immediate. "ISRABUILD" Tel. 02-5688571

GREAT OPPORTUNITY, WOLF- SOHN, 5, 11th floor, view of Knesset, storage, parking, \$495,000. ISRABUILD, Tel. 02-566-6571.

THE JERUSALEM INN at the City Cen- ter - Double and large family rooms - private bathroom, TV, Tel. - quality furnished. Tel. 02-825-2757, Fax: 02-825-1297.

DWELLINGS
Tel Aviv

RENTALS

WHERE TO STAY

JERUSALEM LODGES LTD.
Short and long term rentals.
Bed and breakfast.
P.O. Box 4233, Jerusalem 91044.
Tel. 02-5611745, Fax: 02-561-6541.

DON'T BE LEFT OUT!
If you don't have e-mail or even a computer you can still advertise!

INTERNET POST CLASSIFIEDS
Reach all of Israel and the world for just NIS 39

Special Offer! * Up to 30 words * 24 hours a day * 2 full weeks

Dwellings Employment Personals
 Business and Services Miscellaneous

Message: _____

Don't forget your contact address /phone /fax /e-mail in your message

Fax this form to 02-531-5622 or place your ad directly on our web site at <http://www.ipost.co.il>

Name: _____
Address: _____
Credit Card No. _____
Exp. date: _____ Card type: _____
Tel No. _____ Fax No. _____
e-mail address: _____

NO TELEPHONE SUBMISSIONS

FORGET THE REST!! We are the best! The biggest and oldest agency in Israel. The highest quality live-in jobs phone Au Pair International. 03-8190423.

IMMEDIATE JOBS AVAILABLE, friendly families, best conditions, the agency with a heart for the Au Pairs. Call Hima Tel. 03-9699937.

GOOD CONDITIONS, HIGH salary, for live-in/out, for 1 yr. Tel. 03-680-8531.

OFFICE STAFF

DIAMOND-EXCHANGE/SECRETARY (TYPIST) (28+/-), for administrative/English / Hebrew typist. With Initiative. Tel. 03-575-0556.

DIAMOND-EXCHANGE/SECRETARY (TYPIST) (28+/-), for administrative/English / Hebrew typist. With Initiative. Tel. 03-575-0556.

PETS
Jerusalem

LOST

LOST - ONE SIBERIAN Husky, Rar- ward. Tel. 02-642-6311.

VEHICLES
Jerusalem

UNRESTRICTED

ARIE PALOG - QUALITY CARS: buying, selling, leasing, trading. Tel. 02-6823736, 050-240977.

SELLING/BUYING? INSTANT CASH! Any car. Huge inventory. Bargains. Bennett. Tel. 02-993-1493, 050-316715.

SCOREBOARD

SOCCER - Yesterday's results:
Derby 0, Everton 1.

Amit blasts Kahalani for visiting synagogue

OUTGOING Jerusalem police chief Cdr. Arye Amit yesterday accused Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani of undermining and insulting his men by visiting the capital's Or Hatzafon synagogue in August, from which rocks and dirty diapers were thrown at them.

Amit was speaking at a study day on "The Policeman's Image," attended by Kahalani, at a Border Police base in the capital.

Amit said the insult to the image and honor of policemen undermines their self-confidence and seriously damages the police. Giving an example, Amit explained: "A minister, who for me is the king, innocently enters the center where dirty diapers and rocks are thrown at police who serve every Shabbat on Rehov Bar-Ilan. This undermines their confidence."

Amit was referring to the synagogue that police think was the "center of disturbances" during the demonstrations in recent months.

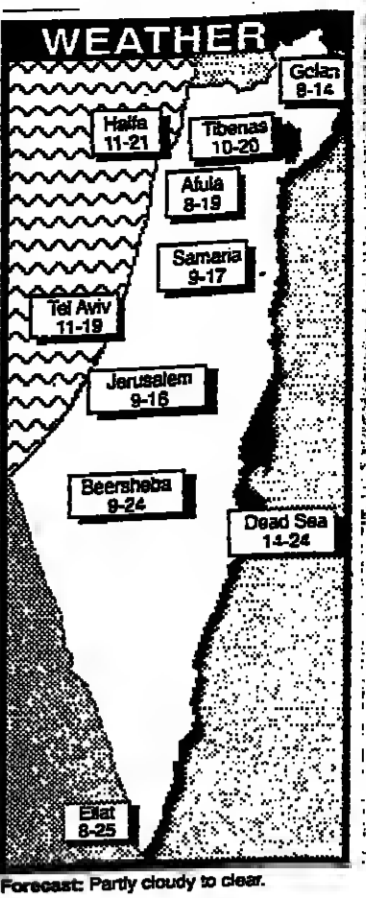
"Another thing that hurts us is the leadership war, which leaked outside the force in an ugly way," Amit said, hinting at comments made by Deputy Inspector-General Gabi Last. "A commander saying that we don't use clubs in my district, when there is no reason to do so, is like my going to the television and saying that my district is much better than the central district because no one drowns in it."

When Amit finished speaking, Last said: "If you're done acting like a child, we offer you our hand." Last stuck out his hand, but Amit refused to shake it.

(Itim)



Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan stands outside Haifa Magistrate's Court, where his trial on charges of violating privacy and illegal use of military documents opened yesterday. Eitan, former energy minister Gonen Segev, and two Isomet activists are accused of using information illegally obtained from an IDF computer in internal party battles. The court gave the defense an additional month to prepare its case.



AROUND THE WORLD

Location	Low	High	Forecast
Amsterdam	03	37	cloudy
Barin	13	33	partly cloudy
Buenos Aires	22	32	rain
Cairo	11	29	cloudy
Chicago	29	33	partly cloudy
Copenhagen	26	31	clear
Dallas	01	27	cloudy
Frankfurt	01	34	cloudy
Geneva	12	23	clear
Hong Kong	19	26	clear
Johannesburg	15	26	clear
London	08	16	cloudy
Los Angeles	18	26	clear
Madrid	06	16	clear
Moscow	01	24	clear
New York	06	42	clear
Paris	09	16	clear
Rome	05	15	partly cloudy
Stockholm	10	12	clear
Sydney	19	26	clear
Tokyo	07	15	clear
Toronto	01	16	clear
Vancouver	06	12	clear
Zurich	06	12	clear

Chief vet accuses anti-vivisectionists of 'lying' about him

THE director of the Agriculture Ministry's veterinary services accused the Israel Anti-Vivisection Society yesterday of "lying" in claiming that he had turned down free oral rabies vaccine from Germany meant as bait for wild animals.

Prof. Arnon Shimshony said that his office, in collaboration with Tel Aviv University and Nature Reserves Authority experts, tried the vaccine-laced bait three years ago, but it was not effective because it broke down in the heat.

On Sunday, after the death from rabies of soldier Rafi Tal following a rat bite in his tent, the society charged that Shimshony "prefers to kill off tens of thousands of stray dogs and cats out of fear that they were infected by foxes."

Tal was not vaccinated by Acre district health office doctors because they claimed there had never been a documented case of a rat transmitting the rabies virus.

Na'amat petitions High Court over lenient rules for obtaining gun licenses

NA'AMAT petitioned the High Court of Justice yesterday against new rules which make it easier to get a gun license, charging that these rules will lead to increased domestic violence and more spousal murders.

The new criteria were approved by the Interior Ministry at the end of October. They lower the minimum age for owning a gun from 21 to 20, and expand the list of IDF and ex-IDF personnel who are automatically eligible for a license.

The petition based itself on a report prepared in June by a parliamentary committee of investigation into spousal murders. According to the committee's findings, about a third of all spousal murders are committed with guns.

Even when spousal violence does not result in murder, however, the committee found that the presence of firearms significantly increases the fear to which battered wives are subjected.

According to the committee, there are some 150,000 battered women in Israel, whose families include some 350,000 children.

The petition charged that the more lenient criteria would contribute to the "sowing of terror" and violence in the families of wife-beaters, as well as causing an increase in the number of spousal murders, since they include no mechanism for weeding out wife-beaters. As such, the new criteria are so unreasonable as to be illegal, the petition argued.

The High Court has already issued an interim injunction against the new criteria, to respond to a different petition.

Expert: Risk of Syrian attack drops for now

THE risk of Syria launching a limited military action against Israel in the North appears to have dissipated for the time being, but has certainly not disappeared, according to Middle East expert Prof. Gabriel Ben-Dor.

"I think the Syrians are playing a sophisticated game and are waiting for a more opportune moment," said Ben-Dor, professor of political science and Middle East politics at Haifa University.

"They escalated the situation at one point, just before the US presidential elections, when they felt Israel was vulnerable, but then eased off."

"They estimate that the political moment is not right now, first because the attention of the world is focused on the Palestinian-Israeli talks and particularly the stalemate on Hebron.

"Before that is resolved, there is no real chance, in the Syrian view, of any international pressure being exerted on Israel on yet another issue."

"They are also waiting for the US administration to get organized, efficiently enough to be in a position to exert pressure if required or so desired."

Ben-Dor is participating along with other leading experts from Israel and abroad in a two-day international conference on Syria - including internal, social, economic and political issues - which opens today at Haifa University.

"I estimate that if the Hebron issue is resolved by a signed agreement soon, then the Syrians might try to heat up the situation in the North again, once the US administration is entrenched and has formulated its foreign policy," he said.

Ben-Dor said that such an escalation was likely to occur next month or early February, if the deadlock in the peace talks on the Syrian-Israeli track continues.

"It would be likely to take the form of threats and the movement of armed forces or they might even try a limited form of military action on the Golan. This is still very much in the cards if the stalemate continues," he said.

Winning cards

THE winning cards in yesterday's daily Chance draw were the jack of spades, eight of hearts, seven of diamonds and eight of clubs.



Corp. Assaf Ben-Or

Red Sea International Music Festival - Eilat - Aqaba

Maestro Valery Gergiev

The Orchestra and Choir of "Kirov" Opera House - St. Petersburg

"The fire of Toscanini. The finesse of Abbado, the flamboyance of Celibidache... Gergiev is a powerful generator of music"

Hanoch Ron, 'Yediot Aharonot' 14.1.96

15% OFF For American Express Card holders

Thursday 9.1.97 at 20:30 Aqaba, Jordan: Opening Festive Concert, Under the Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan, Shiraz Shalqay Oded Zahavi (solo) commissioned in honor of Peace Mussoqsky, Night on a Bald Mountain Rimski-Korsakov, Scheherazade Tchaikovsky, Caucasian Sketches Rimski-Korsakov and Juliet - Romantic Symphonies, Romeo and Juliet in Music, Berlioz, Brno and Juliet - Romantic Symphonies, Manna Tarassova, mezzo-soprano Teroni, to be announced Sergei Alekshin, bass

Saturday, 11.1.97 at 21:00 - Eilat, Verdi - "Requiem", Steven Smet, soprano Manna Tarassova, mezzo-soprano Gagan Grigorian, tenor Sergei Alekshin, bass

More Concerts at 11:00 A-Cappella - "Kirov" Opera Choir, at 16:00 Concert of Music, Sunday, 12.1.97, 16:00 - Eilat: A Family Concert, Burdakov, Polovtsian Dances from "Prince Igor" Prokofiev "Peter and the Wolf".

For week-end package deals (flight, hotel, tickets) please call: AKINS, Tel: Tel: 03-5103251/791251/6398516370 Fax: 03-510305

For tickets only please call: Bococo, 93 Dizengoff, tel. 03-5276677, with credit cards and group orders. Hasbaron-Bococo, tel. 03-5276699, fax. 03-5221747. Hasbaron, Ramat Hasharon, tel. 03-5400551-2, Le'an, tel. 03-5270545, Hadra, tel. 03-5277977, Castel, tel. 03-604475, Jerusalem, Eilat, tel. 02-6256869, Eilat, tel. 02-6248896, Haifa, Garber, 04-8384777, Eilat, Tourist Information Center, corner of Derech El-Zarava and Yotam, 07-4372111

There is only one American Express.

Survey finds that 22% of youth would not serve in IDF if it weren't required

TWENTY-TWO percent of 16-18 year olds questioned in a recent survey said that they would not serve in the IDF if there was not a mandatory draft, announced Moddy Kidon, head of the Gitan company which conducted the survey.

The survey of 300 teens also found that 71% thought their parents were more motivated than they are; 31% do not believe a mandatory draft is justified in light of the state's current situation; 40% believe the IDF stunts their personal development; and 45% place their own personal fulfillment before national ideals.

The survey results were announced yesterday in a discussion on how the IDF can improve its image among youth and reserve soldiers during the Media '97 conference in Tel Aviv.

OC Manpower Maj.-Gen. Gideon Sheffer, who also spoke at the session, said that it is difficult to say whether the survey results are positive, as there are no similar surveys to compare with them.

(Itim)

Soldier dies of wounds received in Beit Lid bombing

CORP. Assaf Ben-Or, 20, from Kiryat Bialik, died yesterday of wounds he received in the Beit Lid suicide bombing nearly two years ago. He is to be buried today at the military section of the Tzur Shalom cemetery in Kiryat Bialik.

Ben-Or was wounded on January 22, 1995, when two Hamas suicide bombers blew themselves up at a soldier's hitch-hiking post and kiosk at the Beit Lid junction. Nineteen were killed in that explosion and 64 wounded.

Give a Special Gift for the Holidays

Share The Jerusalem Post with a friend, relative or colleague

Give a gift of The Jerusalem Post International Edition, the paper that will keep a dear friend or loved one informed about Israel and the Middle East. The unmatched coverage includes news and analysis of all important events and changes.

The Jerusalem Post International Edition keeps you up with current affairs and special features every week. Written and edited in Israel, it is the direct line to the homeland and offers the convenience of air-mail delivery. No other international publication can offer that. 52 weeks a year!

As the holidays grow near, why not take the perfect opportunity to give the perfect gift? Subscribe now!

Order one full year - 52 weekly issues - for just NIS:299.00*, payable in three equal installments of NIS 100 each.

* For orders outside the USA and Europe please add an additional NIS 30 for air-mail costs.

Yes! Please start a one year (52 weeks) subscription to The Jerusalem Post International Edition for NIS 299 (payable in 3 equal installments of NIS 100 each).

Send to:

Name _____

Address /Apt. _____

City/State/Zip _____

Country _____

From:

Name _____

Address /Apt. _____

City/Zip _____

Tel. _____

Checks are enclosed, payable to The Jerusalem Post

Please charge my:

Isracard Visa

American Express Diners Exp.

Card no. _____

Signature _____

Send orders to: The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

For fast service: Call: 02-531-5649 Fax: 02-538-9017 e-mail: subs@jpost.co.il

THE JERUSALEM POST International Edition